

## Tanzanians rap Liberia-Israel ties

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — A Tanzanian group has accused Liberia of threatening African unity by establishing diplomatic relations with Israel. The government-owned Daily News Friday quoted the chairman of the Tanzania-Palestine Solidarity Committee, Haroub Othman, as saying Liberian President Samuel Doe's visit to Israel defied "the collective decision of independent Africa." Mr. Doe, who left Tel Aviv Friday, was the first black African head of state to visit Israel since 28 African nations broke off diplomatic ties during the 1973 Middle East war. "We hope that the government of Liberia will rethink the manner and come back to the African fold and that Africa's long-term interests will not be sacrificed for meagre, short-sighted benefits," Mr. Othman was quoted as saying.

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## Israel returns Turkish captives

ANKARA (R) — Israel handed 29 Turkish citizens captured last year at Palestinian camps inside Lebanon to the Red Cross. Israel's charge d'affaires in Ankara, said Friday. He charged the Turks were involved in various "subversive acts" in cooperation with the Palestinians in Lebanon. He gave no details. He said all the Turks, believed to have fled their country following a military coup in 1980, did not want to return home. He said Turkey has not officially asked for the extradition of the 29.

## Sinai force director arrives in Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — The director-general of the multinational force and observers in Sinai, Lemon Hunt, arrived Friday to inspect units of the force on the Israeli side of the frontier with Egypt. Mr. Hunt arrived from Egypt where he carried out a similar inspection. He said he would meet Defence Minister Moshe Arens and other Israeli leaders. The multinational force was set up after the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Sinai under the Israel-Egyptian Camp David agreement in 1978.

## Rydbek to visit Japan, Australia

VIENNA (R) — The head of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian refugees, Olof Rydbek, will visit Japan and Australia this weekend for talks with government officials. UNRWA said Friday. The commissioner-general arrives on Sunday in Tokyo and will go to Sydney on Monday, the agency said. It gave no further details.

## U.S. mission visits Tunisia

TUNIS (R) — Tunisian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Mahmoud Messiri conferred here Thursday with a delegation representing the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, the Tunisian News Agency TAP said. Composed of Toni Verstandig, assistant to Clement Zablocki, chairman of the foreign Affairs Committee, Stephen Weissman and Loni Sullivan, the delegation recently toured six African states with six U.S. congressmen on a fact-finding mission. TAP said Mr. Messiri explained to his visitors the Tunisian position on Arab and African problems but gave no other details.

## Mrs. Gandhi backs Pakistan democracy

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi implicitly backed the opposition movement in neighbouring Pakistan Friday, saying she favoured democracy and that injustice should be opposed. Speaking in parliament, she also criticised the government of President Zia ul Haq, saying she had condemned the execution of former Pakistani leader Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Mrs. Gandhi, commenting for the first time on the unrest in Pakistan, said India stood for democracy and would continue to do so.

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## Druze leader, McFarlane to hold talks in Paris

# Junblatt aide evokes possibility of accord on Shouf stalemate

PARIS (R) — An aide to Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt said Friday that the next few hours could be decisive for an agreement between his faction and President Amin Gemayel.

Mr. Junblatt's Druze militia have for the past year been fighting rightist units in the Shouf mountains near Beirut. Mr. Junblatt arrived in Paris Friday afternoon, as U.S. special Middle East envoy Robert McFarlane and President Gemayel's national security adviser, Wadie Haddad, also flew into the French capital.

An aide told Reuters that Mr. Junblatt expected Friday to meet U.S. officials, possibly including Mr. McFarlane, and added: "The hours to come could be decisive for an agreement between Mr. Junblatt and Mr. Gemayel."

Mr. Junblatt's forces have said they would fight the Lebanese army if it tried to send troops into the Shouf mountains without prior agreement.

Mr. Gemayel has pledged to use the army to take control in the area after Israeli forces carry out a

## Israel plans new prison in Lebanon

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel is building a new prison camp in South Lebanon for Palestinian guerrillas captured in last year's Israeli invasion of Lebanon, military sources said Friday.

The new camp is being constructed a short distance from the existing Ansar camp where more than 5,000 Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners of war have been held since last summer.

The sources said that prisoners in the new camp would be housed in concrete structures built to last several years. Construction would be completed by November, before the onset of the Lebanese winter.

Prisoners in Ansar have been living in tents. Israeli newspapers recently reported that discipline inside the camp had deteriorated badly and the Israeli army was losing control.

The Maariv newspaper this week quoted an Israeli officer as saying Israeli soldiers were scared to enter the camp and only did so in large, heavily armed groups.

Two weeks ago, 14 prisoners escaped from Ansar through a hole in the perimeter fence in the first successful breakout since the camp opened.

Israeli soldiers who have served at Ansar have said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was in total control inside the camp.

## Manila students protest against Aquino murder

MANILA (R) — Several thousand students demonstrated Friday in protest at the murder of Philippines opposition leader Benigno Aquino while police said they had made little headway in their efforts to identify the killer.

The police commander investigating the slaying said he had drawn "only blind leads" in finding the identity and motive of the killer.

A special commission ordered by President Ferdinand Marcos to inquire into last Sunday's assassination also ran into problems when one of its members signalled he would not be able to take part.

Some 4,000 student demonstrators at the state-run University of the Philippines carried signs denouncing the government as "fascist" and accusing it of violating human rights, but the protest was largely peaceful.

long-awaited pullback to more secure positions in southern Lebanon.

The Junblatt aide said Friday: "The situation is tense, but when the situation is tense, sometimes the deadlock is broken. There should be a political agreement before the Lebanese army moves in."

He said a meeting had been arranged Friday between Junblatt and U.S. officials, possibly including Mr. McFarlane, who briefed French officials at the External Relations Ministry Friday afternoon.

But he said they had so far not been contacted by the Lebanese government over a possible meeting between Mr. Junblatt and Mr. Gemayel's national security adviser.

Mr. Haddad is a key aide of President Gemayel. He was recently reported to have visited Jeddah and Amman, apparently in the hope of meeting Mr. Junblatt.

Diplomats here said they believed there might be a meeting of the U.S. envoy, Mr. Junblatt and Mr. Haddad, but added they did not know of any plan for the three to get together.

The French news agency Agence Centrale de Presse quoted well-informed sources as saying Mr. Junblatt met senior officials at the French External Relations Ministry earlier Friday afternoon.

Mr. Junblatt wants radical changes in the running of Lebanon and guarantees of safety for his followers in the Shouf mountains.

Mr. Gemayel, in a television address Friday night, appealed to people in the Shouf not to fire on Lebanese army troops when they moved to occupy abandoned Israeli positions.

McFarlane has been shuttling between Israel and Lebanon to coordinate the Israeli withdrawal with the Lebanese authorities.

The influential daily Le Monde said Mr. Gemayel was prepared to meet Mr. Junblatt on neutral ground.

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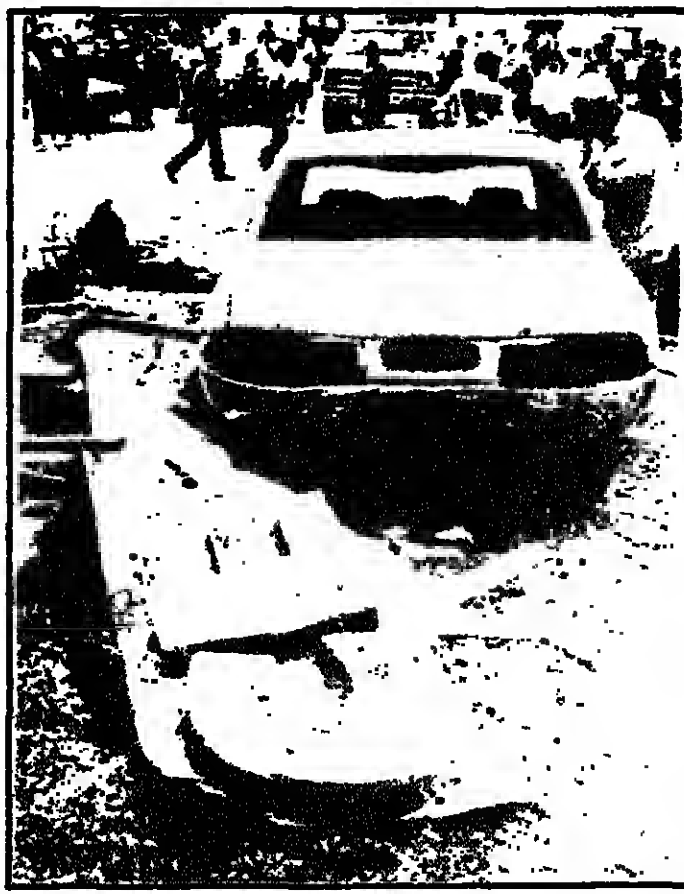
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ATTACK ON AIR FRANCE: Part of the sign "Air France" lies on the ground Thursday after an explosive device was thrown by unidentified men at the Air France office in eastern Beirut. Three people were reported injured in the attack (A.P. wirephoto)

## Cairo urges PLO unity

CAIRO (R) — Egypt called Friday for an end to fighting between supporters of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and rebels of his Fatah guerrilla group.

The call was made by Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali in an interview with the Paris-based newspaper Al Wattan Al Arabi (the Arab Homeland) and reported by the official Middle East News Agency.

Mr. Ali said Egypt had always supported the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and urged all parties to put Palestinian interests before personal disputes.

"In dealing with Palestinian issues Cairo only contacts the PLO," the minister said.

He urged Palestinians to accept President Reagan's Middle East Initiative, launched last September, as a basis for negotiations on a Middle East settlement.

Mr. Reagan's plan suggested Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, in association with Jordan.

Mr. Ali warned against putting the Middle East problem on ice, particularly since U.S. presidential elections are due next year.

I killed in clashes

Meanwhile in Tripoli, one man was killed when commandos loyal to PLO Chairman Arafat stormed and seized a guerrilla office from anti-Arafat rivals Thursday, security sources said.

The two-hour inter-Palestinian clash took place in the sprawling Badawi refugee camp on the outskirts of the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli.

Rival factions split over loyalty to Mr. Arafat have battled there with automatic fire and anti-tank rockets over the past three days.

During his private visit to Egypt, Mr. Weizmann, an important figure in early Egyptian-Israeli talks following President Anwar Sadat's 1977 visit to Jerusalem, had talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali and Mr. Ghali, whom he met three times.

On his return to Israel, Mr. Weizmann said he briefed Israel's Prime Minister Menachem Begin on the outcome of the talks.

The Weizmann visit took place as the two countries, who signed a treaty in 1979, were at loggerheads over Lebanon.

embroidered with the name "Rolly."

Photographs of the alleged assassin, who was gunned down by airport security guards, have appeared in newspapers and on television.

"We have received telephone calls from people saying he is such-and-such a person but so far we have come up with only blind leads," Gen. Olivas told a press conference.

Asked about a possible motive, he said one possibility was to consider who stood to lose most from the killing and who stood to gain.

"In the particular case, those who stand to lose most are the Philippines government, of course. Those who stand to gain would be those who would gain if the government is destabilised," the general said.

Gen. Olivas said airport security men assigned to guard Mr.

Manila students protest against Aquino murder

embroidered with the name "Rolly."

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## Iraq, Iran report fighting

BAHRAIN (R) — Iraq and Iran Friday reported fighting along the Gulf war front, including plane and helicopter gunship raids and artillery exchanges. An Iraqi high command communique issued in Baghdad said its planes and helicopter gunships attacked Iranian concentrations in the northern sector. It said they all returned to base safely after scoring direct and effective hits. An Iranian military communique issued in Tehran claimed an Iraqi helicopter was shot down Thursday south of the Darband Heights in the northern sector, where Iranian troops launched a cross-border thrust on July 23. The Iranian communique, carried by the news agency IRNA, said sporadic artillery fire was traded between the two sides in the central sector Thursday.

## Qasem in Tunis; may meet Arafat

TUNIS (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem arrived here Friday to discuss a joint Arab response to Israel's occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip and parts of Lebanon.

He is also expected to meet Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, Palestinian sources said.

The minister said he had come to consult with Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi on joint Arab action, saying the Arab states should coordinate their response to the "permanent aggression" they were facing.

"We cannot delay any longer a review of the dangerous events taking place in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and this concerns also the Palestinian cause itself," Mr. Qasem said.

"In the same way, the continuing occupation of the Lebanese territory by the Israeli forces has a moral and material impact on all the Arab states, from the Middle East to North Africa," he said.

Mr. Qasem said it was necessary to counter moves aiming to renew links between Israel and some African states. After Zaire, Liberia this month became the second

African country to restore diplomatic ties with Israel.

In Amman, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported earlier Friday that Mr. Qasem was on his way to Geneva, heading an official delegation to a U.N. conference on Palestine scheduled to open on Aug. 29.

"The world should find practicable ways for establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the region, based on an Israeli withdrawal from all territories occupied in the 1967 war, and guaranteeing the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people on its national soil," Mr. Qasem said.

"Effective steps need to be adopted at the conference for pressuring Israel into abandoning its settlement policies and withdrawing its forces from Lebanon," Mr. Qasem went on.

Mr. Qasem pointed out that Jordan, "while offering all possible support and assistance to the just Arab cause, and the Palestinian people in particular, will insist that the conference contribute to the independence of Palestinian political decision-making and keeping it above containment and influence."

## Moscow offers to scrap some SS-20s

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Yuri Andropov Friday offered to scrap a "considerable number" of the Soviet Union's triple-warhead SS-20 missiles as part of an eventual agreement with the West on curbing medium-range nuclear arms in Europe.

His offer, in an interview with the Communist Party daily Pravda, was reported by TASS news agency.

Mr. Andropov's offer to "liquidate" some SS-20s was the first such clear statement by the Kremlin since talks began in Geneva in November, 1981, between Soviet and U.S. negotiators on curbing medium-range missiles in Europe.

Previously the Soviet Union has only said it would withdraw its missiles into Siberia out of range of Western Europe.

The United States has said an

agreement which merely moves SS-20s eastwards to Asia would not be acceptable.

TASS quoted Mr. Andropov as saying the Soviet offer was of "exceptional importance" and was a "new manifestation of goodwill" by Moscow.

The Soviet leader said it rendered "totally groundless" claims by the West that the Soviet Union planned to relocate SS-20s from Europe to the Far East.

"No grounds whatsoever remain for the concerns that are at present expressed by China and Japan with regard to the possibility of such relocation," Mr. Andropov said.

He made clear that other planks of the Soviet position in the Geneva talks remained basically unchanged.

Mr. Andropov made clear Moscow was still demanding that the

United States abandon its planned deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles in Western Europe as the price of an agreement.

Restating a position first laid down last December, he said the Kremlin was ready to cut its medium-range missile force aimed at Europe to the same level as that of Britain and France combined.

If the West accepted this, then Moscow would "liquidate all the missiles to be reduced," he said.

"In this event a considerable number of the most modern missiles, known in the West as the SS-20s, would be liquidated as well," he added.

Despite the shift in position, Mr. Andropov's phrasing suggested that Moscow still wanted to limit the geographical field cov-

(Continued on page 3)

## Malta remains adamant in Madrid

VADRID (R) — Malta remained adamant Friday in refusing to endorse final agreement at the 35-nation European security conference as diplomats pressed ahead with plans for a major East-West gathering here from Sept. 7-9.

Delegates wrestled with the Maltese question for more than 14 hours Thursday but emerged to nearer a solution.

They turned their attention to Malta after deciding to hold a foreign ministers' gathering whether or not the Maltese endorsed the final document of their three-year review of the Helsinki accords on European security and cooperation.

Malta has withheld its agreement on the document to back demands for a separate conference on Mediterranean security that both East and West have rejected out of hand.

If Malta maintains its stand, the foreign ministers would have to meet outside the framework of the conference and there were signs Thursday night that this was beginning to cause concern.

Diplomats said it could mean the end of the rule of consensus established when the U.S., Canada, the Soviet Union and the rest of Europe, except Albania, signed the Helsinki agreements eight years ago.

Continuing Maltese intransigence could also create problems with the programme of follow-up meetings that are agreed in the final document, the diplomats said.

The programme is scheduled to begin in Helsinki in October with a preparatory meeting for European disarmament talks starting in Stockholm next January.

## Kohl says no early move on tank sales to Saudis

BONN (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl has ruled out an early decision on the sale of Leopard-2 tanks to Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Kohl, dismissing press speculation that a decision on the controversial deal would be made in the next few days, told a news conference the government would not decide until after his planned visit to Saudi Arabia in October.

The chancellor said he did not intend to discuss the tank deal during his five-day trip to Israel beginning on Wednesday.

However, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin is alarmed at the prospect of the Saudis acquiring more than 200 of the advanced battle tanks and Israeli officials have indicated that he will raise the matter with Mr. Kohl.

Diplomats here say the issue could hamper talks between the two leaders.

Mr. Kohl said he regarded his visit to Israel, the first by a West German chancellor in 11 years, as of the utmost importance. Although he was the first chancellor of the post-war generation to go to Israel it was impossible to ignore the "legacy" of the Nazi persecution of the Jews, he said.

However, Mr. Kohl said this would not prevent him from criticising Israeli settlement policies in occupied territories.

West Germany sought to improve its friendly ties with Israel but would not do so at the expense of its links with Arab states.

He would stress to Israeli leaders that Bonn's Middle East policies were based on the principles both of Israel's right to exist and of the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

But he told reporters France did not rule out the possibility of its troops in Chad fighting alongside forces of President Hissene Habre if the situation deteriorated.

France is believed to have more than 1,200 troops and eight warplanes in Chad.

French Defence Minister Charles Hernu spent an hour with President Habre Friday for talks expected to last several hours.

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# MIDDLE EAST

## France awaits Libyan move in Chad

By Donald Forbes  
Reuter

PARIS — Libya's reported tank advance in Chad and the possibility of a new outbreak of desert fighting threaten to wreck a delicate French peace strategy.

French policy since the 17-year Chad civil war resumed two months ago has been to negotiate a withdrawal of forces sent by Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi to support Chadian rebels.

In the last two weeks, France has deployed a powerful force of up to 3,000 paratroops and Jaguar aircraft in Chad to protect President Hissene Habre and to try to deter further fighting.

At the same time, President Francois Mitterrand has sent special envoys to Libya and to the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to press for a diplomatic solution.

Informed sources said the effort was in danger of crumbling as a result of increasing military pressure from both Col. Qadhafi and Mr. Habre, who wants to recapture the rebel-held north.

### "Shattered unity"

While rejecting talk of a partition of the vast Central African country, President Mitterrand noted in the interview Thursday with Le Monde that federation "often conforms more to reality

than a continuingly shattered formal unity."

But he said it was not France's role to cut up Chad and nothing could be decided without the approval of Chadians.

The ethnic and religious diversity of Chad's 4.5 million people is considered by most experts to be a major obstacle to ending the 17-year civil war.

This began as a revolt by Muslim northerners against the Christian south, which was developed by French colonisers and dominated politics and commerce after independence in 1960.

But both Mr. Habre and former President Goukouni Oueddei, whose rebels now control half of Chad, are northerners and opposed to any division of the country.

Nigeria, Chad's powerful southern neighbour, has adopted a federal constitution to try to overcome its tribal problem and has urged successive governments in N'djamena to follow suit.

Former French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing suggested a federation during the 1979 civil war in Chad, but the proposal was rejected by the warring factions who later formed a broad-based government led by Mr. Oueddei.

When Mr. Habre took power in June last year he enshrined the indivisibility of the Chadian state in a provisional constitution known as the basic charter.

### "Strictly a deterrent"

Mr. Mitterrand, outlining his strategy, reaffirmed that France would remain prudent.

Maurice Faure, a senior French political figure sent to discuss the crisis with the OAU in Ethiopia, said France did not intend to become involved in fighting in Chad.

Government policy remains that the paratroops have been sent as instructors but can defend themselves if attacked.

Political sources said however that the rapidly heightening military tension and the volatile temperaments of Col. Qadhafi and Mr. Habre could still thrust France into a direct military role.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

Chad claimed last week that Libyan tanks had rolled South and East from the rebel-held northern town of Faya-Largeau towards defence lines established by the French.

Chadian Information Minister Yahiamat Soumaila said 100 tanks were stationed 300 kilometres north of Salal where French troops have been deployed to halt an advance on the capital, N'djamena.

"Everything shows that the Libyans are ready to attack our positions at Salal," he said. Military sources said a Libyan

attack on the desert post would be daring since it was within range of French Jaguars but beyond the operational limits of the Libyan air force.

Mr. Soumaila has also signalled that Chad wants to launch an offensive to recapture the North and would count on French help.

The sources said Mr. Habre's army would be unlikely to defeat the combined weight of the Libyans and rebel forces without rebel aid.

A crucial issue at stake is the credibility of France's treaty commitments to defend its pro-Western former colonies.

Moderate African leaders have told Paris they fear Libyan interference. The fears were underlined by a pro-Libyan coup in Upper Volta earlier this month.

Having backed Mr. Habre and promised to safeguard Chad's sovereignty, it would be difficult for France to allow him to suffer defeat if Col. Qadhafi opts for further fighting.

Despite denials from Paris that its paratroops would fight, political sources noted Mr. Habre's requests for aid had so far been met in full although with delay and some reluctance.

A powerful bar to the direct involvement of French troops would be the inevitable political outcry within Mr. Mitterrand's ruling Socialist Party and from its communist allies.

Centrist and right-wing oppo-

sition parties have endorsed the sending of the deterrent force and have criticised the president only for delaying France's response to Mr. Habre's appeals for help.

The French newspaper Liberation said the latest fighting stemmed from a refusal by France, in secret negotiations with Libya, to allow Mr. Habre to be unseated.

Black African states fear the installation of a pro-Libyan replacement might further Col. Qadhafi's alleged ambition to use Chad as a base to meddle in Africa on behalf of Moscow.

### U.S.-French ties

The conflict has brought traditionally prickly relations between France and the United States to a low ebb.

Political sources said Mr. Reagan's decision to withdraw U.S. AWACS from the region was a calculated snub to Mr. Mitterrand who complained earlier that he was not told before they were sent.

The pro-government newspaper Le Matin said Mr. Reagan "has given an extraordinary gift to Col. Qadhafi, his greatest enemy."

Without the cover of the surveillance planes, the French force could find itself in a position of "flagrant inferiority" against Libyan tanks and air raids, Le Matin said.

## Kuwait denies CBS report

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti government sources denied an American CBS television report that Iran had plotted to blow up the American embassy in Kuwait, the Kuwaiti Arabic-language daily newspaper Al Watan said Friday.

CBS said Wednesday night that Iran's foreign ministry was responsible for the blowing up of the U.S. embassy in Beirut in April when 46 people died, and that it had plotted another bomb blast against the American mission in Kuwait.

"Like the bombing in Beirut... (U.S.) intelligence indicated that the plot against the embassy in Kuwait was being run from Tehran by the Iranian foreign ministry," CBS said.

Kuwaiti government sources were quoted by Al-Watan as saying Kuwait had never been approached by any other American quarter on the question, nor was it asked to tighten security at the American mission here. There has been no official reaction from Tehran to the report.

OPERATION BRIGHT STAR: Egyptian Brig. Yasser Aheri and U.S. Capt. Beatty Carlos of New Carolina, shake hands Wednesday at the end of the last major phase of joint U.S.-Egyptian military exercises called "Bright Star." (A.P. wirephoto)

## Arab, Asia-Pacific news agencies agree on exchange of information

JAKARTA (R) — The Organisation of Asia-Pacific News Agencies (OANA) Friday signed an agreement to start an exchange of news with the Federation of Arab News Agencies (FANA).

OANA President Ahmad Mustapha Hassan of Malaysia said. The accord, signed by Mr. Mustapha and FANA President Sabar Falhut of Syria, links organisations grouping 24 and 16 news agencies respectively, although not all members participate in news exchange.

Mr. Mustapha told a press conference a joint committee had been set up to examine the technical and editorial details of how news would be exchanged in practice.

"We hope we will be able to start the operation possibly by early next year if we can manage

to get all the various details in order," Mr. Mustapha said.

Both sides agreed that a greater flow of news between the two groups would be a major contribution towards the realisation of "a new world information and communication order", an official statement said.

An OANA editorial workshop that met earlier in the week, finalised a style-book to be adhered to by member agencies from next January, provided approval was first obtained from several absent members, Mr. Mustapha added.

The workshop recommended improvements in the Asia-Pacific News Network (ANN), set up in November 1981 by 18 OANA agencies, calling for more coverage of spot news, a weak point in the existing service, and shorter

distribution delays.

It called for the appointment of a training consultant to help raise standards.

An OANA technical group heard a report by a consultant appointed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), on the restructuring of the network to make it more effective.

Geoffrey Thompson, formerly of Reuters, proposed the setting up of a single transmission centre to streamline news distribution. But Mr. Mustapha said the time was not quite ripe for this and members needed to study his report further.

Mr. Mustapha added that a suggestion to set up a permanent secretariat was rejected by the conference on grounds of cost.

## Cairo extends deadline for tenders

CAIRO (R) — Egypt Friday announced a two-month extension of the deadline for tenders for its first nuclear power project following reluctance by the United States export-import bank to grant credit to two of the U.S. companies making bids.

An official notice in the Cairo press said the closing date for tenders, for construction of a nuclear plant at Al Dabaa, 200 kilometres west of Alexandria, had been put back from Sept. 26 to Nov. 26.

Egyptian officials said the postponement was made at the request of the nine companies competing to build the 1,000-megawatt facility estimated to cost \$2 billion.

A report in the American magazine Business Week said the Exim Bank had declined \$550 million in credits for Westinghouse Electric Corporation and construction engineering, two of the five American companies making bids.

The magazine said the bank ruled that Egypt was a bad credit risk because of its growing foreign debt, declining oil revenue and the heavy energy subsidies. Egypt's foreign debt stood at about \$10 billion earlier this year.

## Saudis float idea of Arab summit in November

TAIF, Saudi Arabia (R) — Saudi Arabia seems to have decided it is worth making an effort to convene an Arab summit conference in November to try to restore some degree of unity in Arab ranks.

Such a meeting has been mooted for some time and the Saudis have made tentative arrangements to convene it in Riyadh around Nov. 21.

Arab and Western diplomats in the region saw King Fahd as likely to flinch from being host to a meeting that, considering the disarray in the Arab camp over several issues, might end up as a searing public row.

However, Saudi Arabia, meeting here with other Gulf Arab oil states this week at foreign minister level, is publicly pledged to try to achieve the sort of consensus be-

forehand that would make holding a summit a worthwhile risk.

Foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), which groups Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, said in a communique they firmly backed efforts "to eliminate Arab differences and create a suitable atmosphere for the success of the coming Arab summit in November."

Bahrain's foreign minister, Sheikh Mohammad Bin Mubarak Al-Khalifa, was asked by reporters if he was hopeful about a summit being convened.

"Oh yes," he replied. "We are trying, from today, to help bring about an Arab consensus."

Other officials said privately this would not be easy but that

Arab disarray over Lebanon, the Gulf war and Yasser Arafat's leadership of the Palestine Liberation Movement (PLO) really could not be allowed to persist.

The Saudis are disappointed by the failure, as they see it, of the United States to win concessions from Israel following President Reagan's peace initiative for the Middle East of a year ago.

They have little hope of any new American initiative until after the U.S. presidential election in November next year, but as one Saudi official put it, "If we persuaded the United States to offer us something now, the Arabs would be too timid to know what to do."

The position of Syria would have to be accommodated in any Arab consensus. It is supporting non-Arab Iran

## Police leave cancelled in Pakistani province

KARACHI (R) — All police leave has been cancelled in Pakistan's rebellious Sind Province as anti-government protesters prepared for a rally on Sunday at the grave of executed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, officials said Friday.

The order, issued Thursday night after one constable died when an angry mob attacked a police station near the Bhutto home of Larkana, also called all officers on holiday to return to work immediately.

Mr. Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) has called its followers to assemble on Sunday at

the grave of the former prime minister, executed two years after he was overthrown by then President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, for a rally led by his cousin, Mashooq Ali Bhutto.

PPP sources said the protesters would meet at the grave in Garhi Khuda Bux, 40 kilometres from Larkana, and afterwards march about 27 kilometres to the home of his first wife, Amir Begum, in Nauroto.

Amir Begum is not involved in politics, but is seen locally as a rallying figure for Bhutto supporters, while his second wife, Nusrat, is in Europe for medical treatment and

his daughter Benazir remains under house arrest in Karachi, they said.

Two large gatherings in Sind, both about 7,000 strong according to opposition sources, Friday demanded the release of Benazir Bhutto, an end to martial law and a return to democracy, opposition sources said.

In Pannu Aqil, the crowd gathered after saying prayers in several mosques for those who had died in the protests so far. The official death count is 24, but the Sind MRD says 41 people have died.

## TV & RADIO

### JORDAN TELEVISION

#### —MAIN CHANNEL—

17:30 ..... Koran  
17:50 ..... Cartoons  
18:05 ..... Children's Programme  
18:30 ..... Invaders from Space  
19:00 ..... John Silver  
19:20 ..... Local Programme  
19:30 ..... Agricultural Programme  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:35 ..... Local Programme  
21:25 ..... Arabic Series  
22:30 ..... Arabic Play  
23:00 ..... News in Arabic  
23:10 ..... Play Continued

#### FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 ..... French Programme  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:20 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:30 ..... N.A.S.H.  
21:30 ..... Documentary: Nature Watch  
22:00 ..... Saturday Variety Show  
22:30 ..... News in English  
23:15 ..... Play of the Month: Othello — Part One  
23:30 ..... News in Arabic

### RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. A.M. & 90 KHz. FM  
& partly on 95.4 KHz. FM

07:00 ..... Morning Show  
07:30 ..... News Bulletin  
07:55 ..... Morning Show  
08:30 ..... News Summary  
10:00 ..... Oriental Foods  
10:15 ..... Morning Show  
11:00 ..... News Summary  
11:05 ..... Pop Session  
12:00 ..... News Summary  
12:03 ..... Pop Session  
13:00 ..... News Summary  
13:03 ..... Catch the Words  
14:00 ..... News Bulletin  
14:15 ..... Instrumentals  
14:30 ..... Centres of Culture  
15:00 ..... Concert Hour  
16:00 ..... News Summary  
16:05 ..... Instrumentals  
17:00 ..... Jordan Weekly  
17:30 ..... Special Feature  
18:00 ..... News Summary  
18:05 ..... Top Twenty  
19:00 ..... News  
19:30 ..... Date with a Star  
20:00 ..... Fibra Jibran  
20:30 ..... The Young Sound

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### EXHIBITION

\* Polish graphic art at the Professional Associations' Complex, Shmeisani, at 6:00 p.m.

### CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267  
American Centre Library ..... 44371  
British Cultural Centre ..... 36175  
French Cultural Centre ..... 37069  
Goethe Institute ..... 41993  
Soviet Cultural Centre ..... 44203  
Spanish Cultural Centre ..... 24039  
Turkish Cultural Centre ..... 39777  
Hayat Arts Centre ..... 665195  
Husseini Youth City ..... 667181  
Y.W.C.A. ..... 41793  
Y.W.M.C.A. ..... 664251  
Yemeni Cultural Centre ..... 36111  
University of Jordan Library ..... 843575

### MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.  
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qafra (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.  
Jordan National Galleries: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Lweidbeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.  
Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.  
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

### SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyche Hotel. 1.30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel. 1.30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel. 2.00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

Churches

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lweidbeh, 37440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi, 23541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 41559.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.

Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. 663249.

Prayer Times

06:41 ..... Fair  
05:08 ..... (Sunrise) Shuruf  
11:38 ..... Dhohr  
18:15 ..... Maghreb  
19:33 ..... Isha

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alta Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. 1081 53250, 53770, 53082, 53177, where it should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

06:55 ..... Cairo (EA)  
08:45 ..... Cairo (RU)  
09:05 ..... Agaba (RU)  
10:00 ..... Abu Dhabi (RU)  
09:15 ..... Jeddah (RU)  
09:25 ..... Karachi, Dubai (RU)  
09:40 ..... Dhahran (RU)  
09:45 ..... Kuwait (RU)  
10:00 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RU)  
10:15 ..... Beirut (RU)  
10:35 ..... Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GA)  
11:30 ..... Larnaka (Cyprus Air)  
12:25 ..... Kuwait (KAC)  
14:40 ..... Cairo (EA)  
15:30 ..... Cairo (EA)  
16:25 ..... Copenhagen, Athens (SK)  
16:30 ..... Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (AR)  
17:15 ..... Frankfurt, Geneva (RU)  
17:45 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RU)  
17:45 ..... Madrid, Tripoli (RU)  
17:45 ..... Athens (GA)  
18:00 ..... Copenhagen, Athens (RU)  
18:05 ..... Rome (Alitalia)  
18:30 ..... Cairo (RU)  
19:00 ..... Kuwait (KAC)  
19:55 ..... Cairo (EA)  
20:15 ..... Beirut (ME)  
20:30 ..... Athens (Olympic)  
08:25 ..... Cairo (EA)  
08:30 ..... Cairo (RU)  
08:45 ..... Baghdad (RU)

### DEPARTURES

07:00 ..... Agaba (RU)  
07:00 ..... Beirut, Paris (AF)  
07:55 ..... Cairo (EA)  
08:30 ..... Athens (Olympic)  
09:05 ..... Beirut (ME)  
11:00 ..... Vienna, New York (RU)  
11:15 ..... Tunis, Casablanca (RU)  
11:20 ..... Athens (GA)  
11:30 ..... Cairo (RU)  
12:00 ..... Paris, London (RU)  
12:35 ..... Larnaka (Cyprus Air)  
14:25 ..... Cairo (EA)  
15:40 ..... Kuwait (KAC)  
17:30 ..... Baghdad (RU)

### LOCAL AIRLINES

18:45 ..... Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Muscat (GA)  
19:00 ..... Kuwait (RU)  
19:15 ..... Dhahran (RU)  
19:40 ..... Jeddah (Saudi)  
20:15 ..... Baghdad (RU)  
20:30 ..... Cairo (RU)  
20:30 ..... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RU)  
01:25 ..... Cairo (EA)  
04:45 ..... Cairo (EA)

### ARRIVALS

06:55 ..... Cairo (EA)  
08:45 ..... Cairo (RU)  
09:05 ..... Agaba (RU)  
10:00 ..... Abu Dhabi (RU)  
09:15 ..... Jeddah (RU)  
09:25 ..... Karachi, Dubai (RU)  
09:40 ..... Dhahran (RU)  
09:45 ..... Kuwait (RU)  
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10:35 ..... Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GA)  
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11:30 ..... Cairo (RU)  
12:00 ..... Paris, London (RU)  
12:35 ..... Larnaka (Cyprus Air)  
14:25 ..... Cairo (EA)  
15:40 ..... Kuwait (KAC)  
17:30 ..... Baghdad (RU)

DEPARTURES

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

### EMERGENCIES

Ambulance ..... 193, 75111  
Fire, fire, police ..... 199  
Food bank ..... 75121  
Civil Defence rescue ..... 66111  
Fire headquarters ..... 23090-3  
Police rescue ..... 192, 21111, 37777  
Police headquarters ..... 39141  
Traffic police ..... 56340  
Electric Power Co. ..... 36381-2  
Municipal water service ..... 71125-8  
Queen Alia Int. Airport ..... 1081 53333

### HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre ..... 813813-32  
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman ..... 44281-4  
Akheh Maternity, J. Amman ..... 42441  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 42362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 36140  
Prestine, Shmeisani ..... 664171-4  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein ..... 667158  
Al-Musasher Hospital ..... 667227-9  
The Islamic, Abadi ..... 665292  
Al-Ahli, Abadi ..... 664164  
Italian, Al-Muhajireen ..... 77101-3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 75111  
Army, Marka ..... 96111

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Isam Al Hawamdeh ..... 24830

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.  
Temperature will be around normal and non-westerly moderate winds. In Agaba, northerly moderate winds and calm seas.  
Low/high temperature in deg. C.  
Amman ..... 17/30  
Agaba ..... 24/39  
Dahab ..... 18/33  
Jordan Valley ..... 23/38  
Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 29, Agaba 37. Humidity readings: Amman 36 per cent. Agaba 24 per cent.

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.  
Apple (American) ..... 450/400  
Apple (Smith) ..... 450/400  
Apple (local) ..... 320/280  
Banana ..... 270/220  
Banana (Mukammur) ..... 230/200  
Cucumber (small) ..... 240/200  
Cabbage ..... 120/80  
Carrot ..... 150/100  
Cauliflower (white) ..... 220/190  
Corn ..... 220/190  
Cucumber (large) ..... 200/150  
Cucumber (small) ..... 320/250  
Eggplant (large) ..... 80/60  
Eggplant (small) ..... 110/80  
Figs ..... 400/300  
Fakous ..... 150/100  
Gaulle ..... 320/250  
Grapes ..... 240/180



## NEWS

### Air Force aircraft crashes near Jerash

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian Armed Forces General Command spokesman announced Wednesday that at about 2 p.m. Wednesday during a training flight by a Royal Jordanian Air Force formation team, one of the planes crashed in the Jerash area.

The incident caused the death of the pilot Lt. Ali Ahmad Hassan Al Khawaldeh, while a resident in the Jerash area was killed and five others injured by falling wreckage.

Further details of the crash have been withheld pending an inquiry, a spokesman said.

### Passport rules clarified

AMMAN (Petra) — Non-Jordanians holding temporary passports will not be issued with either family record documents or identity cards, according to a memorandum issued by the Civil Registration Department (CRD) to Jordanian embassies abroad.

It said that birth certificates of family members of non-Jordanians holding temporary passports will not be replaced by Jordanian ones. Temporary pas-

sports can be recognised by their one-year duration of validity and by the final page of the document where the word "without" is written instead of the bearer's file number, the memorandum added.

This procedure has been adopted after it was discovered by the CRD that some Jordanian embassies had accepted documents for civil registration purposes from people holding temporary pas-

### Jordan orders JD 2.5m in new studio equipment

AMMAN (J.T.) — Television station equipment has been ordered by the Jordan Company for Television, Radio and Cinema Production for its new complex being built at Amman.

The project is scheduled to be completed in 1985 when the company will supply programme material throughout the Arab World.

Link Electronics of Andover, in southern England, is to provide JD 2.5 million worth of the equipment consisting of machinery for two large studios, production control rooms and complete

post-production facilities. It will also supply seven of its new generation of colour studio automatic cameras, the Link 150, which have extensive microprocessor control for rapid setting up.

Experts from Link will arrive Amman to supervise the installation of the instruments and teach the local staff how to use it.

This is the second success the company has achieved in Jordan: In 1981 it worked on four-camera production studio for the Jordan Television Corporation.



Minister of Education Sa'id Al Tal describes the origins of some of the exhibits in the textbook museum in Salt Thursday to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (Petra photo).

### Hassan opens national textbook museum in Salt

SALT (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Thursday inaugurated the first textbook museum in Jordan at the community college in Salt in a ceremony organised by the Ministry of Education.

Prince Hassan delivered a speech to the opening ceremony in which he called for a more diversified study of the current curriculum, explaining the importance of such studies and research "in shaping the values and spirits of young Jordanians."

Prince Hassan later visited the museum, touring its sections and listened to a detailed description by Minister of Education Sa'id Al Tal about the contents of the museum.

A speech was later delivered by

the director of the Salt community college in which she welcomed Prince Hassan and thanked him for his constant efforts in supporting educational institutions in Jordan. She also briefed the assembly on the museum's aims and purposes.

The textbook museum includes textbooks used in tuition in Jordan from 1921 till the present day, plus official documents, certificates and postage stamps from the same period. These will be exhibited to help explain the de-

velopment of Jordan through the same period.

The contents of the textbook museum were collected by the Documentation section of the Ministry of Education which also includes samples of old furniture used during the same period.

Contributions to the museum's collection were also received from the Yarmouk University, the Amman College for Engineering, the Salt secondary school and the Sweileh agricultural school. Individuals also donated collections of rare books and documents to the museum.

Also attending the event were the governor of Balka, Mayor of Salt, general secretary of the Ministry of Education, members of the National Consultative Council and other government officials.

### Pan-Arab companies meeting recommends reduced dependency on foreign consultants

By Philip Robins  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The 11th meeting of the directors of the four joint Arab companies recommended in its concluding session here Thursday that the companies seek to reduce their technical dependency on foreign consulting firms.

The director-general of the Amman-based Arab Mining Company (AR MICO), Thabet Taher, said that large amounts of money are being budgeted to pay foreign consultants, particularly for feasibility studies and appraisals, while the skills of the companies' own manpower are not being developed and exploited to the full.

To overcome this problem the meeting, which was sponsored by the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU), proposed that its personnel should be encouraged to go abroad to attend specialist training courses and international conferences, while an exchange of expertise and information should be facilitated among the companies themselves.

The Amman meeting also urged that a comprehensive survey of Arab consulting firms be undertaken both to "make use of their expertise" and to "encourage their development." In this respect the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID), a representative from which attended the talks as an observer, was singled out for special praise having already begun to collect



Thabet Taher

such information. The meeting also discussed the role that could be played by the joint Arab companies in relation to individual CAEU members' development plans. Mr. Taher, who acted as conference chairman, said that country surveys by the companies should respond to the priorities outlined in individual government plans.

The directors also proposed that the companies should try to encourage joint projects linking the resources of different member states. As an example, Mr. Taher pointed to the potential that exists between Mauritania and Morocco. While the latter has significant levels of copper deposits the latter is considering con-

structing a copper smelter.

In addition, the meeting reviewed the achievements of the individual companies which, apart from AR MICO, comprise the Damascus-based Arab company for Livestock Development, the Baghdad-based Arab Company for Industrial Investments and the Amman-based Arab Company for Pharmaceutical and Medical Supplies. Mr. Taher said that the reports confirmed that the companies were "on the right track" and capable of making significant contributions.

Finally the companies were urged to maintain close contacts with Arab development funds and institutions whose "contribution is important in the financing of the companies' projects."

The meeting's recommendations will now go before the next session of the CAEU ministerial council, which includes the ministers of finance and the economy from the CAEU member states, which convenes in the December of this year. Mr. Taher emphasised that the proposals had been kept intentionally general to give the ministerial council the greatest amount of flexibility in considering them.

Apart from the AOID, observers from the Arab League, the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development and the Fund for Social and Economic Development also attended the meeting, the opening session of which was addressed by CAEU Secretary-General Wahdi Al

Obeidi.

Summarising the reasons for holding the meetings, Mr. Taher said that it was an opportunity for top executives of pan-Arab companies to "meet and to exchange ideas and views about their operations". He also said that they were valuable as a forum at which to "discuss any difficulties which the companies may have encountered" during the intervening period.

### Andropov offers to scrap SS-20s

(Continued from page 1)

ered by the Geneva talks to Europe.

He said the eastern part of the Soviet Union's territory has "completely irrelevant to the subject matter of the Geneva negotiations."

He issued a warning that so far there had been no progress in the negotiations and that there could be no hope for progress while the U.S. position remained unchanged.

He dismissed the idea that the United States was showing flexibility in Geneva, but said "one would not have to wait long for an accord" if the United States and its allies were at all willing to come to an agreement on equal terms.

Mr. Andropov appeared keen to reject the idea that Moscow was more reluctant than Washington to scrap its missiles as part of an agreement.

He said that at the Geneva talks the Soviet Union had suggested that the principal method of reducing medium-range nuclear arms in Europe should be dismantling or destruction.

"At the negotiations we straightforwardly said in the Americans: Let us agree on what will be destroyed on both sides and how. But they shun this subject too," he said.

According to Western estimates the Soviet Union has 351 SS-20s deployed, of which about 100 are already in the Far East.

### Talal Dam to get loan

KUWAIT (Petra) — Jordan is one of four countries to be granted loans from the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development in

the coming week, according to a Kuwaiti News Agency report. The loan is to help finance the raising of the King Talal Dam project on the Zarqa River.

### Chad underlines possible French role

(Continued from page 1)

ected to centre on the role of the French force.

Informed sources said Mr. Habre told Mr. Herve that the military situation was grave. But no statement was issued on the meeting and the sources declined to reveal details.

Mr. Herve said on arrival Thursday night he was in Chad to inspect the French troops.

The government has said repeatedly this week that rebels were pushing south from their northern base at Faya-Largeau in two columns, each backed by 100 Libyan tanks and 1,500 Libyan regulars.

Mr. Herve was due to fly Friday with Chadian Defence Minister Roughton Yoma to the eastern garrison town of Abeche, one of four places where French troops have been stationed on a new east-west defence line.

The French troops helped Mr. Habre set up the defence line after the rebels led by former President Goukouni Oueddei took Faya-Largeau on Aug. 10.

Mr. Soumaila said Chad was grateful to Mr. Mitterrand for having spelled out that France considered Libya the "aggressor" in this latest chapter of a civil war that has erupted intermittently for 17 years.

But he declined to comment on Mr. Mitterrand's mention of federation as a possible solution to the conflict, which caused dismay among officials in N'djamena, informed sources said.

Diplomatic sources said the idea of federation was against everything Mr. Habre had worked for since he took power in June, 1982.

Mr. Habre, like many northerners, considers a federation would be the first step to secession by the richer southern half of the country.

The sources also said Mr. Mitterrand's appeal for talks between the warring factions was unlikely to fall on fertile ground.

Meanwhile in Paris, assurances by President Mitterrand that France

would actively pursue a negotiated settlement of the Chad conflict were treated coolly Friday by French opposition leaders.

While Mr. Herve discussed French strategy with President Habre in N'djamena, opposition spokesmen at home blamed Mr. Mitterrand's hesitations for aggravating the crisis.

Military sources said French air and ground forces were expected to stay in the country for several months.

Official spokesmen refused to discuss the high cost of the operation, an unforeseen additional burden on France's ailing economy, or comment on reports by a diplomatic source that the United States was helping to meet the expense.

Although Mr. Mitterrand is assured of the support of his Socialist Party, the government's Communist allies continued to express reservations.

Roland Leroy, a member of the Communist Party's Central Committee, said Communist fears that France would become bogged down in Chad had not been allayed and he added: "There is no shortage of warmongers in France today."

Leaders of the centrist and right-wing opposition parties, accused Mr. Mitterrand of being indecisive and questioned the likelihood of serious negotiations getting under way.

Jean Lecanuet, leader of the centrist UDF, said:

"Francois Mitterrand admits he waited before intervening and thus bears part of the responsibility for the present situation which has gravely exposed our country."

"Now he admits he is waiting for negotiations although he does not know when they will start, how or with whom."

Jean de Lipkowski of the neo-Gaullist RPR party said: "Negotiations have no chance of succeeding unless it is clearly affirmed that in the case of refusal, we will have recourse to arms."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Badran receives NCC speaker

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran received in his office Thursday National Consultative Council (NCC) Speaker Suleiman Arar.

#### Zarqa to get new complex

ZARQA (Petra) — A Professional Associations' complex is to be opened in Zarqa Sunday. To mark the occasion, a three-day flower and shrub show will be held. Pamphlets on growing and caring for flowers and displaying evergreens will be available free to all visitors.

#### Rural electrification programme continues

MAFRAQ (Petra) — The Irbid District Electricity Company (IDEC) has started implementing its technical project to electrify eight villages in the Mafraq district. The current stage includes the instalment of high-pressure lines, the construction and distribution networks and the building of transformer installations. IDEC Director-General Mohammad Arafa said the electrification of the villages, which is costing some JD 630,000, will be completed during the first quarter of next year.

#### Productivity seminar concludes

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on productivity in Arab industrial projects was concluded Thursday at the Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences (AOAS). Representatives of industrial companies and corporations in several Arab countries participated in the ten-day seminar, which was organised by the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development in cooperation with the Arab Union for Foodstuffs Industry. During the seminar, participants exchanged views on ways of increasing productivity especially when applied in the context of Arab industrial organisations.

#### School management discussions convened

SALT (Petra) — A seminar on school management continued at the Salt Community College Thursday. The Thursday session examined issues related to the maintenance of school buildings, budgeting and student counselling. The seminar, participated by head teachers from all over the country, aims to facilitate an exchange of views and experience between those involved in the administration of educational bodies on theoretical and practical educational issues.

#### Yarmouk registration for disabled opens

AMMAN (Petra) — Yarmouk University sources said registration at the centre for the education and rehabilitation of the disabled will open Sunday. The sources added that the parents of the disabled are requested to see the director of social development in Irbid for registration purposes within two weeks starting Sunday. Disabled applicants for student places should not be less than six or more than 15 years old, the sources said. Those who wish to join vocational training courses should not be older than 18 years of age, it said.

### Jordanian goods praised, says pavilion director

DAMASCUS (Petra) — The Jordanian ambassador to Damascus Hussein Hamami and the Jordanian consul Ahmad Al Mhaidin Thursday paid a visit to the Jordanian pavilion at the Damascus International Fair which opened Aug. 22.

The Jordanian pavilion was visited by large number of Arab and foreign visitors who expressed admiration for the high standards of Jordanian products on display, said pavilion Director Nuwras Khreisat.

He added that the exhibition consisted of medicines, gas cookers, refrigerators, fridges, clothes, leather products, foodstuffs, detergents and other products.

Also on display are samples of fertilizers, potash and phosphates as well as posters showing Jordanian archaeological and tourist sites, Mr. Khreisat added.

Yarmouk University Engineering Office Director Ra'if Najim delivers a lecture Thursday on "The Treasures of Jerusalem and its Islamic Heritage" (Petra photo).

### Najim lectures on Jerusalem

AMMAN (Petra) — Yarmouk University Engineering Office Director Ra'if Najim Thursday gave a lecture at the Islamic Conference's Amman Office on "The Treasures of Jerusalem and its Islamic Heritage."

In his lecture, Mr. Najim reviewed the history, architecture and art of Jerusalem, as well as Israel's drive to seize and appropriate the historic and archaeological sites of Jerusalem.

Mr. Najim called on the Islamic World to confront the Israeli challenges and to start renovating historic sites and Islamic waqf possessions in Jerusalem.

He pointed out that Arab League-backed plans for the reconstruction and maintenance of Jerusalem's historic sites have been outlined by the Aqsa Mosque Reconstruction Committee and the Royal Committee for Jerusalem Affairs in Amman.

### Iraq-Jordan transport meeting to begin today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Iraq-Jordan Land Transport Company (IJLTC) board of directors open a three-day meeting here Saturday. The meeting will discuss issues related to IJLTC's current and future plans, and the achievements made by the company over its past years of activity.

Participating in the meeting will be Iraqi under-secretary of Transport and Communications Abdul Sattar Farhan, who arrived in Amman Thursday.

### Car accident levels fall

AMMAN (Petra) — A Traffic Department spokesman said that the number of road accidents occurring last week is considerably less than the week before. Compared with the same period last year, the figure is encouragingly lower, the spokesman added.

The total number of accidents last week reached 153, in which 11 people were killed and 118 injured. The Amman area had the highest proportion of accidents with 85.

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FORUM HOTELS



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## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

## Al Ra'i: Time to make up

NEWS REPORTS suggest that an Arab summit might be convened soon to clear the pan-Arab skies and improve the general Arab atmosphere. It is also said that Saudi Arabia is making mediatory efforts to create a suitable climate for the convening of the summit. It is obvious that the convening of the summit is in itself of no value. Hence, the objectives of such a summit must be clear-cut, and that means that Arab leaders must arrive at the venue of the summit with no other concern but to start afresh aiming all their resources at facing the common challenges and rallying the Arab forces to be used in achieving its clearly-defined goals.

The forthcoming summit should in no way be the place for Arab reconciliations. All differences must be settled before the conference, and summit time should not be wasted on easing bad relations and pondering to fragile feelings. Summit time should be given to prominent priorities, as the Arabs have a great deal of wasted time to make up for. It must be stated forthrightly that over-indulgence and an obsession with parochial differences and marginal inconsistencies among Arab states has been a vital factor in the U.S.'s hostile attitude in relations to Arab rights, and the European indifference towards the whole Middle East issue.

## Sawt Al Shaab: GCC: A force for unity

A STATEMENT summing up the views expounded at a recent meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) foreign and finance ministers expressed council member states' concern for outside as well as internal issues. The statement expressed the hope that the Iraq-Iran war will soon come to an end, and voiced support for the unity and integrity of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as well as concern for Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity. The statement also gently appealed to the Arab states to put its differences aside and seek solidarity.

Nonetheless, the Gulf states have been able to lay the foundations for a subtle framework for joint action. The setting up of the GCC has created an Arab body that has proved capable of being effective in tackling issues of mutual significance for the Gulf states. If the council could be made by the member states to enhance its pan-Arab role, it might prove much more effective in crystallising a regional Arab effort for dealing with current Arab crisis effectively. It is true that the Arab region is part of world politics and cannot be seen outside such a framework, but even at this level, the weight of the Gulf region in international politics can be a significant and positive factor in favour of such a pan-Arab role.

Thursday's

## Al Ra'i: A strategy of dependence

IT IS pathetic to watch the Arab countries desperately awaiting for a miracle to happen and bring peace to the Middle East region. They are quite helpless and constantly embroiled in their own problems and disputes. Those who were counting on the Americans were disappointed by the recent U.S. veto at the U.N. Security Council that killed a resolution calling for the dismantling of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories. Others are hoping against hope that the Europeans will come to their aid and bring peace by working independently from the United States or exercising pressure on their Atlantic ally. Some Arabs are hoping that the Soviet Union will do them justice by convening an international conference to discuss the Middle East problem. The Arabs themselves however are doing nothing to change the situation and the foreign powers are not expected to extend any help or assistance to a nation that is not working seriously towards achieving its own goals. The Arabs should not expect others to help them achieve peace when they are quarrelling among themselves and aborting all chances for the achievement of that aim.

## Al Dustour: Same trap, new bait

ATTEMPTS BY Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens to recruit a group of collaborators from among the Arab inhabitants in the occupied territories is doomed to failure. Arens' predecessor Ariel Sharon tried his hand in this matter earlier when he formed the so-called Village Leagues with the hope that they would help him implement civil administration rule. The Village Leagues have failed in their mission and their existence was denounced by Arens who succeeded Sharon in the post of defence minister. Arens' attempts to penetrate Arab ranks and recruit collaborators can only reflect the confusion and instability of the policies of Menachem Begin's government. Arens' admission that the Village Leagues have achieved nothing demonstrates the government's failure in dislodging the Arab inhabitants from their national stand and influencing their steadfastness in the face of aggression and arbitrary rule. Arens has adopted the same tactics and methods of Sharon and his work amounts to the same as setting the same trap with a new bait which will not deceive anybody. The Arab inhabitants who have a long and bitter experience of the enemy will maintain their solidarity and help kill off Arens' new scheme in the same way as they disposed of Sharon's.

## Sawt Al Shaab: Still in the balance

THE COMING days carry with them the biggest challenge for President Gemayel's government when the partial Israeli withdrawal takes place. The Israelis say they will pull out from the Shouf Mountains around Beirut where the Druze and Falangists have been exchanging fire in a bid to control the region. The biggest challenge for the Beirut government lies in the deployment of troops in this embattled region to secure the government's control there. President Gemayel anticipated the challenge and called for a conference grouping together all parties and factions with the purpose of achieving national reconciliation, and thus avoid the confrontation that might ensue between the army and the warring factions in the mountains. If this call falls on deaf ears or if the conference fails to achieve any constructive results, then the army will have to launch a military campaign to secure government control over the Shouf region, and this campaign might be backed by multinational forces stationed in Lebanon. This would be a most dangerous move since it would undermine all attempts by the government and Arab states to bring about a reconciliation in Lebanon.

## VIEW FROM AMERICA

## Crossing of histories and the Druze of today

By Franz Schurmann

SAN FRANCISCO — Like China, like India, like Europe, the Middle East is a place where history lives. Even though I am a part historian by profession, I have often been puzzled as to what history is. I have finally decided that history is something that each people have in a different way. I do not think there is any such thing as a "history of mankind." History is the account of the roots of a community, usually large. Where it came from, who its ancestors are, the striking features of the earlier life of the community. Since there are many, many communities in the world, there is a large number of different histories.

As an American, I could be asked: Well, how is it that you became so interested in the history of so many different countries? I would answer: I did not become interested so much in the history of countries which are not my own community. Rather it was for two other reasons. If there was something in the history of another community of people

that could teach me something about the present, then I was interested. Or if the history of a particular people crossed the history of another people, then I too was interested. In fact, I did my Ph.D. dissertation on the economic policies of the ancient Mongols in China. Their conquests crossed the histories of many peoples, and in particular with histories of Muslim peoples. And Muslims suffered from that crossing. Even when I wrote that dissertation when I was in my early 20's, I thought of my own people, the Americans: Were we like Mongols or Romans or maybe some other conquering people?

The Middle East is a part of the world where several peoples have several histories. And if history deals with roots, then the roots of many different people are intertwined, often violently so. History comes to mind particularly when we read about Lebanon. Lebanon consists of a number of distinct communities, each of which has long historical

roots. Lebanese are to a large extent mountaineers. And mountaineers are among the most rooted of people in the world. Some of the world's most intriguing linguistic vestiges are found among high-mountain people, like the Basques of Europe, the Berbers of North Africa, the Peoples of the Caucasus, and the Hunza of the Karakoram in Pakistan.

One of the intriguing communities in Lebanon are the Druze. I have read about them, but never met one. I first heard about them in the early days of the Israeli state when it was said the Druze had decided to support the Israelis because of an alleged historical animosity to Islam. Then I heard of them again when they were described as a left and socialist force in Lebanese politics led by Kamal Jumlani leaning towards the Palestinians and in opposition to the Christian Falangists, the Kata'ib, encouraged by Israel. Now they are again in the headlines as part of a reported anti-

Gemayel coalition. From what is known of them, they seem to have curious and secret doctrines. It is said that, like Shi'as, they practise 'taqiya' or dissimulation. In other words, as Mormons in the U.S. used to do, they will not admit their true faith and simply say Muslim or Christian. In the U.S. many have become Presbyterian, as the British journal Economist has reported.

But in the reading I have done over the years, one fact has stuck in my mind. Druzes believe in the transmigration of souls. In other words, after death, the liberated soul goes into another body. These are ideas that may have had their origins in India where Hinduism believes in an endless cycle of birth and rebirth. But it is not generally known that once there was a powerful religion in Europe that had the same beliefs. The Druze religion began in the 11th Christian century. Around the same time, a sect grew up with astonishing speed in what is

now southern France that preached doctrines similar to those of the Druze. They believed in transmigration: they had no priesthood; they held humans could become perfect and so their mullahs, so to speak, were called 'perfect'. It was also said that the sources of this religion, called Catharism or Albigensianism by its enemies, lay "to the east."

In fact, there was a similar religion in Eastern Europe. It flourished in what is now central Yugoslavia and Albania. It was called Bogomilism, or God-worshippers. When the Ottoman Turks came, all these peoples went over to Islam and today remain Muslim except where oppressed.

The Catharites were exterminated in Europe's first holocaust, perpetrated by the French who came from the north. In the process, the brilliant civilisation of southern France was destroyed.

This was the time of the Crusaders. But it was also a time of an extraordinary exchange of

peoples and ideas between the world of Muslim civilisation and a Europe coming out of the crudeness of the Middle Ages.

So it would seem that this secretive and self-isolating community of Druzes may earlier have been part of a chain of ideas that stretched between India and Southern Europe.

One might ask this commentator: What does all this crossing of histories have to do with the issues of the present? I am not sure except that it implies no political community, unless it be very primitive, is totally isolated from others. Druzes, Shi'as, Maronites, Sunnis and so many others in Lebanon seem like classical mountain folk. Yet the external links are there. Those of the Maronites go to the West. The Shi'as look to Iran. The Sunnis look to the larger Arab World. And the Druzes? They may have once looked to Israel, but no longer. Maybe some of this ancient history plays a role in what Walid Jumblatt and his followers are doing now.



## Aquino murder upsets Filipino system

By Graham Lovell  
Reuter

MANILA — The murder of opposition leader Benigno Aquino has put Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos on the defensive and deepened public disenchantment with his 18-year-old government.

But it has also immobilised an already fragmented opposition that is now trying to capitalise on the death of the man who might have united them in their challenge to the president.

Analysts believe Sunday's killing could drive moderate opposition elements into the arms of Communist guerrillas who believe that only violence can dislodge President Marcos.

The president's problem is to how prevent further erosion of public confidence in his administration.

Mr. Aquino's professed aim in returning to the Philippines was to help avert revolution, even though by going home after three years of self-exile in the United States he risked going back into prison.

He was already under sentence of death by a military court and had served more than seven years

in an army jail when President Marcos allowed him to go to the U.S. for heart surgery in 1980.

Critics of the president say he is on the defensive because many Filipinos believe that, even if his government had no hand in the murder, Mr. Marcos would certainly benefit by Mr. Aquino's absence when national assembly elections are held next May.

The opposition believed that with Mr. Aquino at the helm they could have won enough seats to break the domination of the assembly by Mr. Marcos's New Society Movement, the KBL.

They believed the May polls would show that democratic processes still worked in the Philippines even though the president retained much of the considerable power he assumed during nearly eight years of martial law, lifted in 1981.

They also hoped to develop a credible voice in national politics and help to arrest a "drift to the left" — euphemism for joining the Communist New People's Army (NPA) — by young people fed up with the present political system and the older generation.

Internationally President Marcos has been damaged by the killing and the horrified reaction of

friendly foreign governments. The U.S., for instance, called it a political assassination.

It would be a blow to his prestige if President Reagan called off a visit planned for November at the start of a south-east Asian tour. Congressman Stephen Solarz, chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee on Asian and Pacific affairs, said the visit should be cancelled if it could be shown that the government had any hand in the assassination.

The White House said there were no plans to cancel the visit. International bankers and foreign governments had already expressed concern about political instability here, the growing influence of Communist rebels in cities and countryside and evidence of high-level mismanagement and corruption.

The sagging economy, though not necessarily the government's fault, has fed popular disenchantment and has been exploited by the Communists, now estimated to have 5,000 armed guerrillas.

Diplomatic sources believe Mr. Aquino's death may further destabilise the country by showing that the government could not

even maintain security in a tightly guarded international airport.

They said the opposition might be able to exploit Mr. Aquino's "martyrdom" although it is clearly anxious not to get involved in a mass expression of sympathy that might get out of hand and lead to a tough government reaction.

Church sources said the Roman Catholic hierarchy had discouraged plans by priests to hold nationwide prayer vigils and services for Mr. Aquino in case "political firebrands" used the occasion to stir up trouble and provoke the government.

With no effective leader the United Nationalist Democratic Organisation (UNIDO), a coalition of 12 political groups, might drift apart or become a sterile debating club while young activists turned to violence to vent their frustration.

While the opposition regrouped, the president has to reassure the public that he is still in control.

The day after the killing, rumour swept Manila about the president, the army and a possible insurrection. Mr. Marcos had to stage a late-night televised press conference to show that he had not died, stepped down or fled the country.

## LETTERS

## NIHO is independent

To the Editor:

In his article "Displaced People" (Jordan Times, Aug. 22) T.A. Jaber wrote about the growing human problem of displaced persons and called for a symposium under the aegis of the United Nations, which, I believe, is of utmost importance, particularly when one reads daily about the human sufferings of thousands of Palestinians under the yoke of Israeli occupation. Mr. Jaber also referred to the "New International Human Order" proposed by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan adding that a "United Nations commission has been set up".

I wish to make the following corrections: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan proposed the establishment of a "New International Humanitarian Order" (NIHO) in a speech he delivered to the 36th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in September 1981. Later, Jordan presented this proposal as a draft resolution before the UNGA. The Assembly unanimously adopted the resolution. In his proposal to set up NIHO, HRH Crown Prince Hassan spoke of the need to promote a New International Humanitarian Order parallel to the efforts being made in the economic and other fields. "Before dealing with economics and politics, let man learn to be more human", said HRH Crown Prince Hassan. He expressed his hope that the NIHO will be able to offer a new impetus for a Code of Conduct in human and international relations of which we are so desperately in need.

On July 7, 1983, an Independent Commission consisting of 24 eminent scholars and world leaders was launched in Geneva. The Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues is not related or connected to the United Nations as Mr. Jaber said in his article.

The co-chairmen of the Commission are HRH Crown Prince Hassan and Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan. Its members include HRH Prince Talal Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, Prime Minister Mzali of Tunisia, former President Senghor of Senegal and Luis Echeverria of Mexico.

The Commission will convene two to three times a year, but the working groups are expected to convene more frequently. Special panel discussions will reflect the Commission's role as a catalyst. It will cooperate with the existing humanitarian agencies, both governmental and non-governmental. It will also call upon the youth of the world to lend its support to the work of the Commission which will be devoted exclusively to looking into practical ways and means to render contemporary society more humane in its attitudes and actions.

Salameh Abdul Hadi

Press Secretary to  
HRH Crown Prince Hassan,  
Amman

## Given choice, today's Spaniards would say 'no' to NATO

David White reports on the background to the referendum to be held early in 1985 of Spain's integration in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

MADRID — Spain's allies, it seems, will just have to be patient. More than a year after Spanish admission to NATO, the file that was opened on military integration is gathering dust on the shelf. Although Mr. Felipe Gonzalez, the prime minister, has avoided an immediate crunch by postponing the promised referendum on NATO, he has not dispersed the uncertainty about Spain's future in the alliance.

Following his visit to Washington in June, the allies know one thing: How long they have to wait. Mr. Gonzalez for the first time placed a date on the referendum — sometime early in 1985. This, significantly, is after Spain expects to have sealed its entry into the European Economic Community (EEC), and after the Spanish Socialist Party's congress in the autumn next year.

The government itself — accused by the Communists of manoeuvring to keep Spain in NATO, and by Moscow of doing an about-turn in foreign policy — will refrain from taking sides in the referendum campaign, Mr. Gonzalez says. His own party can be expected to remain hostile to integration in the alliance.

It is now evident that when the

earlier visit to West Germany, his first official trip to an allied country. They also made mileage out of a rumoured split on the issue with Mr. Fernando Moran, the foreign minister, who has left cantankerously denying his imminent resignation.

Mr. Gonzalez told the West Germans that in the absence of a successful outcome to the Geneva arms talks he "understood" the case for deploying NATO missiles in Europe. The Spanish government, while reaffirming the country's opposition to allowing nuclear weapons on its own territory, had previously skirted round this issue, arguing that NATO's "double-track" decision on arms negotiation and missile deployment pre-dated Spain's joining the alliance.

Behind the ambiguous front lie obvious differences of standpoint, which have yet to resolve themselves into a decision about which direction Spain should take. In spite of the view taken in the press, public opinion polls in a country which, after all, played no direct part in either world war bear witness to a strong current of neutralism which is by no means exclusive to the left. In the local elections in May, it was the right-wing challenger for mayor of Madrid who came out against the U.S. air base at nearby Torrejon. Spain's U.S. bases, first set up

30 years ago under Gen. Franco's rule when Spain was considered unacceptable as a NATO partner, are widely unpopular. But the Socialists have managed painlessly to smooth the way to their being maintained. A new five-year bilateral agreement, drawn up last summer in the context of Spain's NATO entry, was recently ratified by the Socialist-dominated Parliament.

The U.S. keeps about 10,000 military personnel in Spain, principally air force. The main facilities it uses apart from Torrejon, an important base for tactical fighter training, are at Saragossa, where it has a military airlift command and a fighter unit; a standby air base at Moron, near Cadiz; and the Rota naval base, used to support the U.S. Sixth Fleet.

Following the change of government, a protocol was agreed with the U.S. removing any assumption about Spain's integration into NATO's military structure. But if Spain changed its NATO status, the U.S. would be bound to invoke renegotiation clauses.

The terms of the agreement, which are most beneficial to Spain, covering industrial cooperation, standardization of equipment and the lifting of "buy American" rules to allow Spanish access to the U.S. defence market, are based on similar pacts with NATO members and are only operative for allies of the U.S.

Withdrawal would also call into question Spanish industrial participation in the country's \$3 billion deal for McDonnell-Douglas F-18A fighters. The McDonnell-Douglas option has been confirmed finally after reconsideration by the government.

The impact on the Spanish armed forces has to be taken into account in measuring the possible destabilising effect on an exit from NATO. One of the main internal arguments for integration is that it might help wean the army from politics.

Moves towards building a trimmer, more skilled and better-equipped force are already under way, with reform plans which reduce the officer corps and cut territorial units. While the ancestral fixation with the "enemy from the south" — a hypothetical Moroccan attack on Spain's last North African footholds — is still powerful among senior ranks, the top level of command appears to recognise that Spain's interests basically coincide with NATO's and that membership provides the best means for modernisation.

The navy in particular is considered pro-American and receptive to taking up a significant role in Western Mediterranean defence, filling the gap left by France when it pulled out of the military structure in the mid-1960s. The Spanish see NATO as the saviour, and not the other way

round, and feel they should set the terms for bestowing favours — whether this means setting up a fourth major NATO command, which the alliance does not want, or some recognition of sovereignty which would allow the country, in Mr. Moran's words, "to stay in NATO without having its hands tied."

This points to some intermediate membership arrangement on the "French model," which NATO wants even less.

The reason Mr. Gonzalez has given for delaying the referendum has been his unwillingness to upset the alliance in a period of East-West tension. But it has also become increasingly evident that Madrid is out to gain maximum leverage from the NATO issue.

More than implicit links are made between the NATO issue and the foreign policy goals of joining the European Community and long-term recovery of Gibraltar. Officials now play down the prospect of a Gibraltar settlement somehow being reached through NATO. But progress on that issue, according to one senior member of the administration, "will weigh in the final decision on NATO."

A more direct connection is made with the EEC. "It will be hard," the same official says, "to sell Spain the idea of NATO if it is kept outside the Common Market." — Financial Times





**Salwa  
El Taher**

The two men stood in the middle of the desert, looking at each other and at the overturned car. Bassem, the driver, had a small scratch on his chest, and Jamil, his navigator, had no worse than a large tear in his shirt. But they were still dizzy, with shock as

# One day in the life of a rally driver

much as disbelief.

Bassem had twice before been champion of the Jordan rally. He was the pet driver of the race, for he always came out with minimum penalties. Jamil was bright, meticulous and had done his homework in assessing speeds and calculating distances. And yet, less than an hour after the race began, here they were, helmets in hand, beaten by the desert winds.

Bassem! Thought Bassem. And suddenly, he was angry at the futility of it all. How could it have happened to him, while he was doing so well? He had even discovered a short-cut that had saved them a great deal of time and effort. But then, the unexpected gravel, the skidding of the car, its slow downward dance. Oh, how infuriating!

Safe! Thought Jamil. They were actually safe! He almost wept as he remembered how, less than a month ago, his own car had over-

turned with his pregnant wife and his two children. They had been badly bruised, physically as well as psychologically, but they had survived; a narrow escape. And now, this. How will his wife react when she hears the news? She had misgivings about the race anyway, a sort of premonition...

"Hey there, what happened to you?" Participants in the race stopped their cars immediately when they saw their crushed engine. But Bassem waved them away impatiently.

"We're fine! Don't worry," he'd shout, "don't lose time, go ahead!"

Some of them would not believe him, they would come down to check for themselves, to make sure they were O.K. Then they would go back into the race, informing checkpoints and organisers. "Do you need anything?" They would ask before leaving.

"Nothing, nothing, just go," Bassem would urge.

Nothing? Jamil was puzzled. What if any of them had some kind of shock-reaction? Internal bleeding? Concussion? After all, he had lost consciousness himself for a few seconds... or what had seemed like a few seconds. How could Bassem be so sure? So cocksure? He could not repress what he felt towards him now: resentment and dislike. Resentment, because he was the driver. He had steered that wheel...

But causing them to land on their heads in the middle of nowhere was not enough. Now he had to act like a willful child whose

best toy has just been broken. It could be worse before they were picked up, and yet he had drunk most of their water supply. God, but this was no joke. And yet he kept telling everyone: "Go, go, don't lose time." As if winning was so crucial. If he only knew how

lucky they were to be alive. But he did not feel like telling him anything. He felt like rummaging in the car.

So he went back to fish out as best he could remnants of the wreckage. Sandwiches... sand-filled now, but could be useful later. The stop-watch... had stopped, but could probably be repaired. His file, his notes, yes of course he wanted the tables he had spent the night drawing up. Now... didn't they have some kind of plastic bag somewhere?

Oh Lord... How fussy can he get! Thought Bassem as he sat on a

near-by dune. Always worrying, always planning ahead. What for? Can't he see the worst is over? Can't he see the rally is over for us? And yet I know every inch of this road. Six times I have mastered this desert. And the car... How well I knew it, how well it liked me... Oh, how humiliating! What is he worried about now?

Our rescue? It is 12 o'clock on the way to Aqaba and not midnight in the jungle.

We have been located and identified. We are healthy of body and of mind. Beaten by some side gravel. Even the way we overturned was a force. Just look at him fussing...

Hey, Jamil, what do you say we walk to the main road? It would take us a couple of hours at most to get there.

"But are you sure we ought to do it?" Asked his friend, propping his head out of the crashed window.

"Do you have any other suggestions?"

"No, but someone might come looking for us."

"I have a feeling they would have already come if they intended to."

"Ok, you're the boss," answered Jamil, unable to hide his bitterness.

They walked together in silence. But not complete silence. A slow hissing sound came from behind a near-by stone.

"Bassem!"

"Yes?"

"I have a feeling there might be a snake behind that stone," whispered Jamil.

"Then don't go near that stone," Bassem whispered back flippantly.

Their steps resounded on the dusty road. Same walk, same rhythm, same pace. In unison. But everything else was out of tune. For the first time in their twenty-year-old friendship, they were not on the same wave-length.

I never knew he could be so irresponsible, so insensitive, thought Jamil. What's eating him up? His missed laurels? Oh, but some people are vain... I wonder how they're coping with the news back home... while I walk with this cryer-over-spilt-milk.

Oh, but what a bore, thought

Bassem. We can cope with whatever comes up next. But gone is the chance to meet the challenge: the opportunity to excel; the possibility to bring performance to its perfection. When will he know that his future he can shape, but that his past he can never recuperate?

And so on they went, until they reached the main road. Picked up by a truck, they sat back to back all the way to Amman. Sarre's play, 'Huis Clos' loomed too heavy with meaning over their stiffened shoulders. 'L'enfer c'est les autres', Hell is the others... at least when stranded together in the desert after overturning in the midst of a car rally.

The above incident took place during one of the 1982 rallies held in Jordan. This year's Jordan Rally, however, ended without a single hitch. Credit must be due to the organisers.

## Decline in tourism affects Jordan's hotel industry

By George Shomali

AMMAN — The opening on Aug. 1 of the government-owned Petra Hotel, just outside the entrance of the fabulous rock-carved city of the Nabataeans, exemplified the irony surrounding tourism in Jordan today.

The 81-room luxury hotel — the smallest of its class in Jordan — is strategically situated at one of the greater tourist attractions in the Middle East, if not the world. More than any other hotel it should be able to profit immensely from tourist traffic.

But the hotel, conceived and initiated — like many others — in palmier days before recession, has come into the market at a time when demand is lower than it has ever been compared to supply. It is a time when even Jordan's best-established hotels are hard-pressed to achieve fifty per cent occupancy.

This is the irony: Jordan has a huge potential for tourism — based on its antiquities and its biblical history — that is only beginning to be fully exploited. But under depressed economic conditions, tourism growth has slowed so much that some of the efforts that have been made in the past — a four-fold increase in hotels between 1967 and 1982 — may have been wasted.

Five four-star and five-star hotels have opened in the past two years. In almost every case now, the management says it was a mistake. There are two more to open by the end of 1984: The 300-room Alia Hotel at the new Queen Alia International Airport and the 350-room top-of-the-line Plaza Hotel, being built by the Housing Bank in Amman.

To quote one experienced Amman hotelier who wished to remain unnamed: "This country needs 650 more hotel rooms in the next year and a half if it needs a bad headcold." Several hotels, particularly the three-star and four-star hotels who rely heavily on group tourist bookings, are suffering badly, and the hotelier expects that at least one or two of them may have to close in the next couple of years.

### Petra an exception

The Petra Hotel may be an exception to the rule of faltering occupancy rates. It is managed by Forum Hotels, a subsidiary of the Intercontinental Hotels Corporation, which is known for high

standards. Forum also manages the Amra Hotel in Amman, which in less than a year of operation has become one of the city's most successful.

The Petra Hotel offers something unique: An air-conditioned environment which tourists can use as a base to explore Petra's beauty. Its managers hope the hotel will be able to capture much of the one-night stay market of tourists about to cross the Jordan River bridge to view the Holy Land, as well as adventurers who devote several days to Petra.

To achieve a real return on capital — which is not expected until the third year of a hotel's operation — the average room rate charged should be one-tenth of one per cent of the price per room of building the hotel.

This assumption goes along with that of having at least 65 per cent occupancy on a fairly regular basis. But in today's market, most hotels have found that in order to maintain some cash flow and to keep afloat at all, they must let their rooms rates drop far below the yardstick.

One 300-room Amman hotel, for instance, which opened in late 1981, cost about \$37 million to build. A price per room of around

\$105,000, and therefore a room rate of \$100-plus. But it is now charging only around \$60 a room, and by the latest reports was coasting around fifty per cent occupancy.

Another, newer 300-room hotel cost \$18 million; \$50 to \$60 for ideal room rates. But that hotel is charging on average \$32 a night for its rooms at present, and managing to keep average occupancy quite high.

These hotels are fighting through a difficult period: matching their rates to the market to keep customers and stay open. But the Petra Hotel, with its 81 rooms, is reported to have cost at least \$9 million. Its average room rate ought to be well over \$100 a night. The rates are fixed by its owners, the Ministry of Tourism, at far below this level, and are unlikely to rise, even when business gets better.

The Petra Hotel will become profitable "only if there is a sharp upswing in traffic at reasonable rates," a knowledgeable source said. Neither of these factors seems ready to loom on the horizon. But the hotel could succeed in what may be the main purpose of the Ministry of Tourism and the World Bank (which helped pay for

its construction as part of a loan to develop Petra and Jerash): Stimulating tourism to the site, giving a boost to the local economy and helping to revive interest in Jordan as a tourist destination in general.

Many other sectors besides hotels are affected by the state of tourism — transport, entertainment, communications — and a healthy tourist business can do much to firm up the economic "muscle tone" of certain areas within the country. Alia, The Royal Jordanian Airline, is another venture that practically stands or falls according to the strength of tourist business.

In the present doldrums, all parties tend to put the responsibility for publicising Jordan on one another. Alia, which has probably done more than any other in this regard, complains that the government is not doing its part. The government eagerly encourages Alia and local travel agents to participate in international tourism events; and everyone blames the hotels for not marketing themselves.

Besides the stark fact that people obviously have less money to spend on travel these days, Jordan also suffers from uncertainties,

such as that over the fate of the Jordan River bridges. Groups have in the past been able to cross from Jordan to the West Bank to see the "holy sites", then return to Amman to fly out via Alia. But in 1981 Israel stopped allowing the return trip, which torpedoed that full tourist season. One year later the bridges were reopened to two-way traffic, but only for a one year trial period. Since tours are usually planned well in advance, the uncertainty worries tour operators.

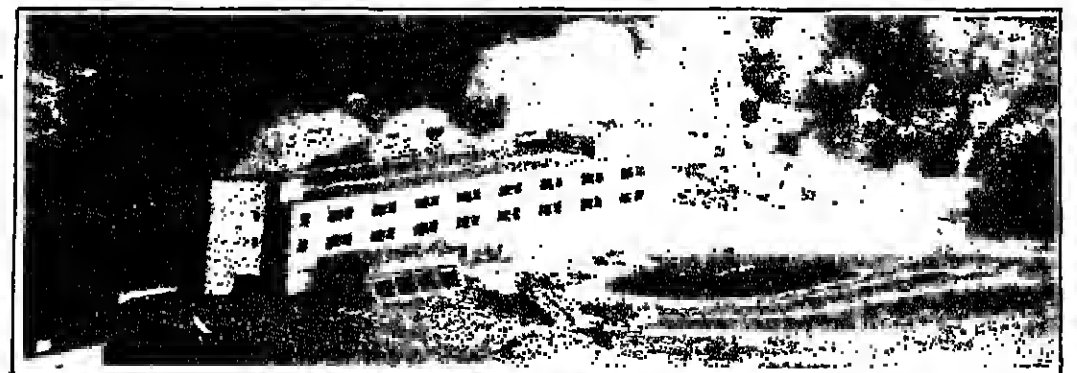
The sea resort of Aqaba is another case in point: Until recently small but steady numbers of nor-

thern Europeans used to come there for winter holidays in the sun. Aqaba's prominence in the headlines with the outbreak of the Gulf War in 1980 caused the cancellation of practically a whole season of bookings. Since then, the resort has been recovering only very slowly. Its new worry is that it has lost much of its attraction because of the proximity of Jordan's only port and other industries which come right up to the shore.

The effect of all this is hard to measure in numbers, apart from the hotels' reduced bookings. Figures for tourist arrivals show an

actual increase in 1982 of 32.9 per cent, to 1.9 million. This followed a year of almost zero growth in 1981. But of the 1.4 million, 1.67 million are shown as having come from Arab countries. The official definition of a tourist is anyone of any nationality who comes to Jordan from abroad and spends foreign currency. So out of the 1.67 million arrivals from Arab countries, a large number can be assumed to be Jordanian expatriate workers on holiday back home. Arab businessmen and family visitors. The number of true tourists could even be dwindling.

— The Middle East Times Cyprus



The 81-room government owned Petra Hotel built just outside the rock-carved city.

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## SPORTS

## Syria beats Jordan in Olympic soccer

By Salameh Nehmat  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Jordan national soccer team Friday played the Syrian national team at the Al Hussein Sport City Stadium, as part of the Asian group qualifying games for the Olympic soccer tournament to take place in Los Angeles in 1984.

The Syrian team beat Jordan 1-0. The goal was scored by Marwan Madarati of Syria in the 12th minute of the second half.

The first 30 minutes of the match the Jordanian team gave a good performance but declined later after missing a few valuable chances.

After the goal, the Syrians played defensively blocking any attempt by Jordanian players to comeback, through the rest of the game.

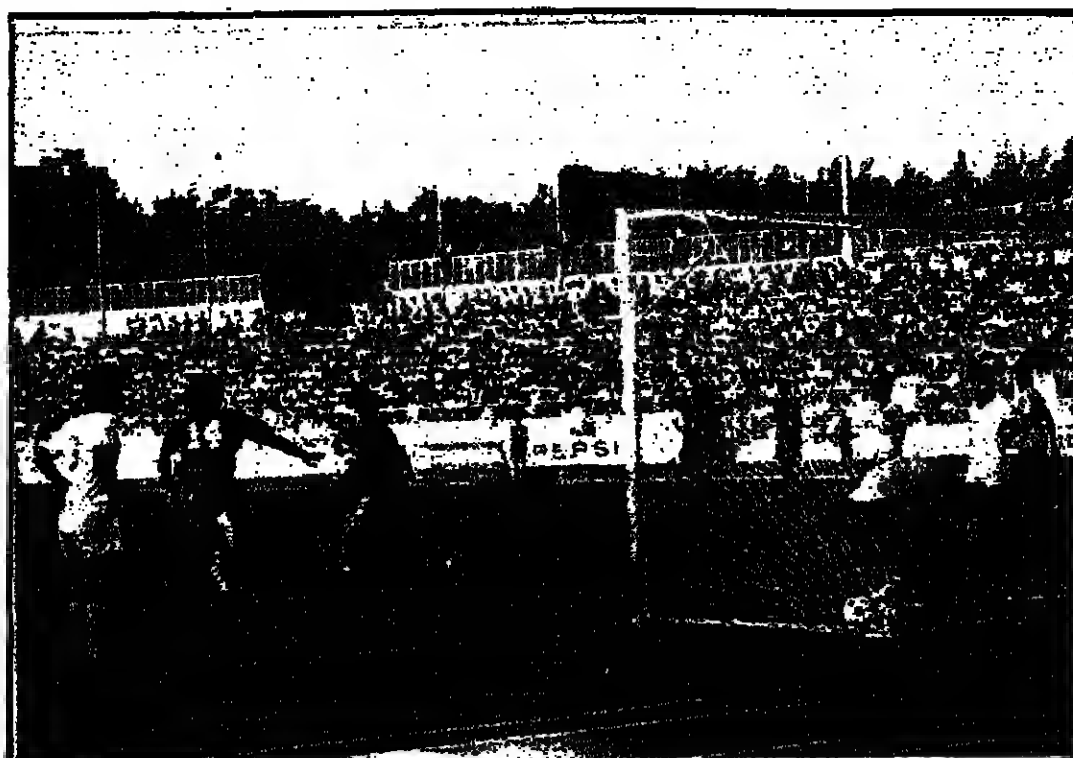
Attending the match were Mr. Adnan Abu Odeh Minister of Information, Mr. Ma'an Abu Nawar Minister of Culture and Youth, Mr. Ahmad Tarawneh Minister of Justice and the Syrian Charge d'Affaires in Amman along with 20,000 spectators.

Both teams met earlier this month in Damascus in which Syria beat Jordan 3-2 in the first leg of the tournament.

Along with Jordan and Syria, their qualifying group also includes Qatar and Kuwait.

Jordan will play Qatar on Sept. 8 in Qatar and Kuwait will play Syria day in.

On Sept. 15 Jordan will play Kuwait in Kuwait. In the return games, Jordan will play Qatar in Amman on Oct. 14 and a match will also take place in Amman on Oct. 21 between Jordan and Kuwait.



Jordan's goalkeeper Milad 'Abassi picking up the ball from the net after Syria's Madarati scored the only goal. (photo by Yusef Al 'Allan)

## English soccer season begins, all eyes are on Nicholas

LONDON (R) — Liverpool, Manchester United and Tottenham will all be reduced to supporting roles on the opening day of the English soccer season on Saturday.

For all eyes will be focused on Highbury Park, London where Arsenal entertain Luton.

It is many years since the word 'entertain' has been used in connection with Arsenal but the signing of Charlie Nicholas for £650,000 (\$975,000) from Glasgow Celtic has transformed 'the Gunners' into a star attraction before a ball has been kicked.

The 21-year-old Scot is the most exciting player to emerge in Britain since George Best, complete with Beatles' haircut, left the streets of Belfast to find fame — if not ultimately fortune — with Manchester United at Old Trafford.

Best's over-publicised personal problems brought a premature end to an unforgettable career and there is a genuine fear Nicholas may fall prey to the pressure of living up to the 'glamour boy' tag he has inherited.

"Champagne Charlie" as he has already been labelled, will be the highest paid footballer in Britain. He enjoys nightclubs and discotheques and his business manager has negotiated a series of lucrative personal sponsorship deals.

If Nicholas has not left his extraordinary goal-touch in Scotland, he will find friends and admirers in abundance. If he fails, he can expect no mercy.

As the likeable Best discovered, football can quickly turn to coo-tempt... and in football, that is when the knives come out.

Although 40 years older, Joe Fagan will have every sympathy with Nicholas. At 61, his image of a nightclub which plays every match under floodlights.

But Fagan, too, will be under close scrutiny. He has inherited the job of leading Liverpool, following in the footsteps of the legendary Bill Shankly, football's fondest remembered manager, and Bill Paisley, football's most successful manager.

Fagan has devoted his life in football to Liverpool, serving a long apprenticeship as reserve team coach then assistant manager.

Now, four years short of his old age pension, he has been handed

the task of masterminding Liverpool's bid to win the championship for the seventh time in 10 seasons.

Liverpool, who face a tricky visit to newly-promoted Wolverhampton on Saturday, find themselves in their customary position as League, F.A. Cup and League Cup favourites.

And to their fanatical following on the famous 'Kop' terraces at Anfield, a fourth European Cup triumph would not go amiss either.

Fagan, who will have the reassuring presence of Paisley in the Liverpool directors' box, failed to persuade Nicholas against joining Arsenal, but strengthened an already impressive squad with three close-season signings.

Bob Boulder arrived from Sheffield Wednesday and will provide some much-needed competition to the often-inspired, often eccentric Zimbabwean goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar.

Coventry's highly-talented Gary Gillespie has been recruited as cover for injury-prone defenders Alan Hansen, Mark Law-

renson and Phil Thompson while Irish international Michael Robinson will increase the battle for places up front.

Liverpool surrendered their first piece of silverware last Saturday when they were beaten 2-0 by Manchester United in the Charity Shield game at Wembley and it is from Old Trafford that they can expect their fiercest challenge in the months ahead.

United boss Ron Atkinson also lost out in the race for Nicholas' signature, but there are signs the F.A. Cup holders, who play hosts to second division champions Queen's Park Rangers in their opening game, may just have the edge on Liverpool this season.

Tottenham, who feature in an attractive clash at Ipswich on Saturday, will also be among the front-runners although Argentine star Osvaldo Ardiles will miss the first four games through injury.

There has never been much wrong with the Tottenham attack. Ardiles and Glenn Hoddle form a 'dream' midfield, while Alan Brazil, Steve Archibald and Garth Crooks look good for a feast of goals.

## Noah ousted in 1st round

JERICHO, New York (R) — Yannick Noah of France, the French Open Champion and seeded fourth in next week's U.S. Open Tennis Championships, suffered the humiliation of a first round defeat in a \$150,000 invitational tournament here Thursday night.

He was knocked out of the competition by the unfancied Brian Gottfried of the U.S. in straight sets, 6-4, 6-3.

Noah, the topseed in this event, admitted he was rusty after a two-month lay-off. This was caused by a six-week suspension imposed by the U.S. International Professional Tennis Council and two weeks resting a sore knee.

"It showed I'm not ready," said Noah, whose next match will be against American Scott Davis in the Open next week.

Noah lost serve to start the match as unseeded Gottfried, beaten by Noah in last year's Open, made a mockery of the form book. "My serve and volley were good, and I returned service better than he did," Gottfried said. "He possibly wasn't match-tough."

Noah was unable to get his first serve working in the first set and the American stormed into a 5-1 lead.

Noah's concentration also wavered in the second set and he foot-faulted five times, enabling Gottfried to get to a 4-1 lead.

The French Champion showed flashes of his top form to rally to within one game of Gottfried, but the American held his serve and then Noah suffered his sixth service break of the match in the final game.

Patrice Hagelauer, the French Jay is Cup coach who practised on Wednesday with Noah, said, "Being out so long makes a player lose confidence. He has to start again. The first week at the Open will be tough for Noah."

## Gross breaks another world record

ROME (R) — West German Michael Gross shattered his second world record of the week when he won his fourth gold medal at the European Swimming Championships in the Olympic pool, Rome on Friday.

The 19-year-old Frankfurt schoolboy, who broke the 200 metres freestyle world mark on Monday, destroyed the two-year-old 200 metres butterfly record of American Craig Beardsley in tremendous style.

The lanky West German led from start to finish to clock 1:57.45 and better the 1:58.01 mark set by Beardsley in Kiev in 1981.

Gross, who also anchored West Germany to a 4 x 200 metres freestyle relay world record this week, won by more than two seconds from Soviet Olympic Champion Sergei Fesenko, who finished in 1:59.74.

Gross also won the 100 metres butterfly here, equalling his own European record of 54.01 seconds, and has proved the most ex-

iting swimmer of these 16th European Championships.

But the West German's title was the only individual gold to elude the rampant East Germans in the Olympic pool on the penultimate day of the championships.

Ute Geweniger claimed her third gold medal in the 200 metres individual medley. Astrid Strauss her second in the 800 metres freestyle, and world champion Dirk Richter the men's 100 metres backstroke.

Just to complete another superb all-round display, Geweniger teamed up with Ina Kleber, Ines Geissler and Birgit Meinke to break their own world record in the 4 x 100 metres medley relay with a time of 4:05.79, shaving 0.09 seconds off the mark they set in the World Championships in Guayaquil, Ecuador, last year.

Gross, who won the 200 freestyle and 200 butterfly at the World Championships, went out fast on the first 50 metres and was more than a second up on world record schedule.

His powerful, even stroke kept him on target throughout the race, leaving all his rivals far behind and marking an end to the two-year world-record reign of Beardsley, the man he beat for the world title in Guayaquil.

"I expected to be around 1:57

or under," Gross said. "I can't tell what my limits are, but I believe I'm capable of going even faster."

Geweniger, who won the 100 and 200 metres breaststroke, was always in control in defence of her 200 individual medley title and won by more than two seconds from compatriot Kathleen Nord.

The 19-year-old from Karlsruhe clocked 2:13.07, well inside the 2:11.73 world mark she set in East Berlin two years ago but far out of reach of her rivals.

The East Germans' 4 x 100 medley relay win brought Geweniger and Meinke their fourth gold medals apiece in Rome.

It was a far from unexpected triumph as Kleber, Geweniger, Geissler and Meinke had already won the individual 100 metres backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and freestyle events. Kleber was the only newcomer to the quartet, taking the place of Kristin Otto who swam the backstroke leg in Guayaquil.

It was the second world record for Geweniger who beat her own mark on Thursday in the 100 metres breaststroke.

Earlier, Strauss, making her senior debut at 14, outsped her elders to snatch a second individual title.

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## U.S., USSR sign 5-year grain pact

MOSCOW (R) — United States Agriculture Secretary John Block Thursday signed a new five-year grain pact with the Soviet Union.

Mr. Block, the most senior member of a U.S. administration to pay a formal visit to Moscow since 1978, signed the accord at a brief ceremony with Soviet Foreign Trade Minister Nikolai Patolichev.

The pact has been seen in the West as marking an end to a long slump in trade relations following Washington's imposition of a grain embargo in 1979 in response to the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

"This is a very very important

occasion," Mr. Block said after he and Mr. Patolichev had formally signed the treaty documents in a small room of the Soviet foreign trade ministry.

Mr. Patolichev replied "yes" but made no other comment before the two men disappeared into a neighbouring room for talks on the development of bilateral trade ties.

As they departed, Mr. Block handed Mr. Patolichev a badge and said he was making him an honorary member of the American Corn Growers' Association.

The new grain pact raised the minimum Soviet purchases of U.S. grain from six to nine million tonnes a year.

### LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices ended slightly firmer as the market steadied after the losses earlier this week but dealers said trading was very quiet ahead of the long holiday weekend.

At 1400 GMT the F.T. index was up four points at 721.4. Most leaders gained a few pence, with ICI up 6p at 534 and Guest Keen and BTR each 5p higher. Bowater fell 8p to 216 on fading bid hopes, but dealers said there were few features in the quiet conditions.

Sentiment was helped around mid-morning by a rally in government bonds, although bonds later eased from their highs. Golds fell with the bullion price, and U.S. shares were mixed. Bonds ended with gains of around 1/2 p, slightly off the highs as U.S. bonds weakened but well above opening lows. Prices were buoyed by a lack of sellers and expectations of a fall in Friday's U.S. money supply M1 data, dealers said.

Blue Circle gained 4p at 435 after Thursday's interim results, while London Brick rose a penny to 90 after 92. Active Irish oils had Atlantic Resources up 30p at 355 after 305. Britoil rose 12p to 254. In foods Tesco rose 5p to 153.

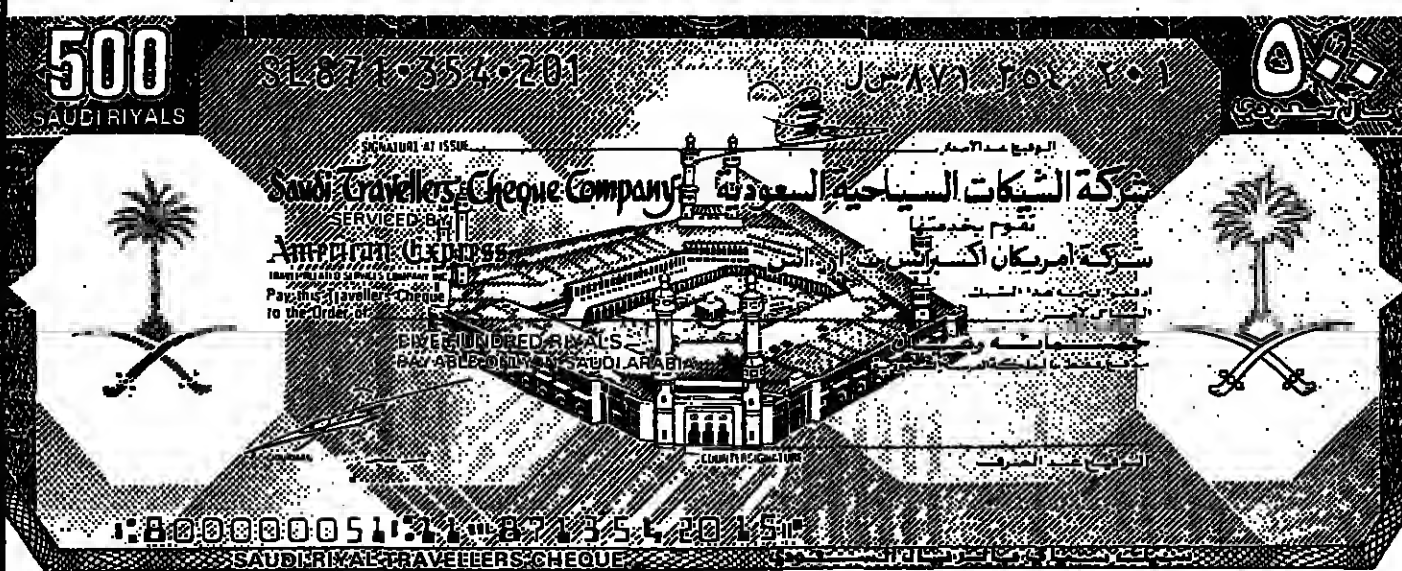
Pearl Assurance added 12p at 724. In newspapers Fleet rose 6p to 117 amid reports Australian businessman Robert Holmes a Court's Bell Group has increased its stake.

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.5067/77	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2335/08	Canadian dollars
	2.6563/73	West German marks
	2.9770/80	Dutch guilders
	2.1592/1602	Swiss francs
	53.38/42	Belgian francs
	7.9980/8.0010	French francs
	1585.00/1586.00	Italian lire
	244.25/35	Japanese yen
	7.8500/8550	Swedish crowns
	7.4450/4500	Norwegian crowns
	9.5675/5725	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	419.00/419.50	U.S. dollars

## Saudi riyal travellers cheque launched



RIYADH — A Saudi riyal travellers cheque was launched on Friday, Aug. 26.

Issued by the Saudi Travellers Cheque Company, a joint venture among eight Saudi banks with American Express as the servicing company, the cheque is appearing in SR 50, 100, 500 and 1,000 denominations.

The highest bank note presently issued in the kingdom is SR 100. The Saudi riyal travellers cheque is described as a destination currency for travellers to and within Saudi Arabia.

It is initially available from all banks and leading money changers with the kingdom and accepted by these same establishments as well as merchants, shops, restaurants, car hire firms, etc.

The cheque will also be available from leading banks in the Middle East.

Internationally, it is refundable at American Express outlets and encashment is available through participating banks' correspondents abroad.

Primarily aimed at the massive Haj market, the Saudi riyal travellers cheque will be an ideal payment method for nearly two million pilgrims attending the Haj each year, and will also offer a safe alternative to cash for businessmen and residents travelling to and within the kingdom, a press release issued by the company in Riyadh this week said.

## Oil glut slows growth in Bahrain's foreign assets

BAHRAIN (R) — The world oil glut sharply slowed growth in Bahrain's foreign assets during 1982, the country's central bank said in its annual report released Thursday.

The Bahrain Monetary Agency said the drop in the state's oil revenues slowed growth in net foreign assets to 64.8 million Bahraini dinars (\$172 million) from 304.0 million (\$807 million) in 1981.

The country's official reserves actually fell by 1.6 million dinars (\$4.2 million) during the year, to stand close to 620 million dinars (\$1.64 billion).

This was sufficient to finance 10-1/2 months of non-oil imports compared with 12 months at the end of 1981, the report noted.

Official reserves rose 221.5 million dinars (\$588 million) in 1981. The other component of foreign assets, commercial bank assets held abroad, rose by 66.4 million dinars (\$176 million) in 1982 compared with 82.5 million dinars (\$219 million) the previous year.

Money supply, defined as currency and demand deposits, rose 7.3 per cent during 1982.

The broader measure of domestic liquidity rose 6.8 per cent after a 29 per cent rise in 1981, which was attributed partly to a large number of new share offerings.

The report said inflation in Bahrain, as measured by the consumer price index, fell to six per cent in 1982 from eight per cent in 1981. It also said Bahrain's oil pro-

duction dropped by 4.7 per cent to 16.07 million barrels, about 42,000 barrels a day.

"The downward trend in indigenous oil production, which started some years ago, is continuing and is expected to remain because some oil wells have dried and others yield less, and that with intense effort," the report said.

Production of refined oil dropped 24.4 per cent to 70.83 million barrels in 1982.

Bahrain imports oil from Saudi Arabia for refining and re-export.

Natural gas production fell for the third successive year, by nearly 16 per cent to 130.5 billion cubic feet, and the report added the production decline was expected to continue.

## Inflation in EEC rises slightly to 8.4%

BRUSSELS (R) — Consumer prices in the European Economic Community (EEC) rose by 0.6 per cent in July, pushing the inflation rate for the past 12 months up to 8.4 per cent from June's 8.2 per cent, the trading bloc's statistics office said Thursday.

The 0.6 per cent increase followed a 0.4 per cent rise last month which had put the annual rate at its lowest since 1978, before the second oil price shock started a new inflationary spiral.

But the 8.4 per cent rate from July 1982 to July 1983 is still an improvement over the 11 per cent recorded in the 12 months ending July 1982.

Only West Germany maintained the same level of price increases in July whereas Denmark showed no price rises due to bargain sales in the shops.

In Greece prices went down by 0.9 per cent due to a seasonal decrease in food prices.

Prices in July jumped the most in Luxembourg, by 1.5 per cent.

In Italy and Belgium they rose by one per cent and in France by 0.9 per cent.

## Japanese video makers boost exports to record 1.38m units

TOKYO (R) — The U.S. economic recovery helped Japanese video-recorder makers boost exports to a record 1.38 million units in July, according to figures published Thursday.

This compared with 1.25 million sets exported in June, with sales to the United States at \$16,000 more than double the figure for July last year.

Industry sources said the U.S. economic recovery easily offset

lower shipments to the European Economic Community as a result of self-restraints on exports there.

Exports to the community fell to 377,000 in July from 438,000 a year earlier and the total for the first seven months of 1983 dropped 10 per cent to 2.34 million sets.

Meanwhile, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation said Thursday it had developed a new television set capable of turning screen images

into hard copy black-and-white pictures.

The TV, the first of its kind in the world, could convert pictures into digital information, memorize them, control them on a microcomputer and print them on thermo-sensitive paper in monochrome in 15 seconds, Mitsubishi said.

It will market the new TV in late October.

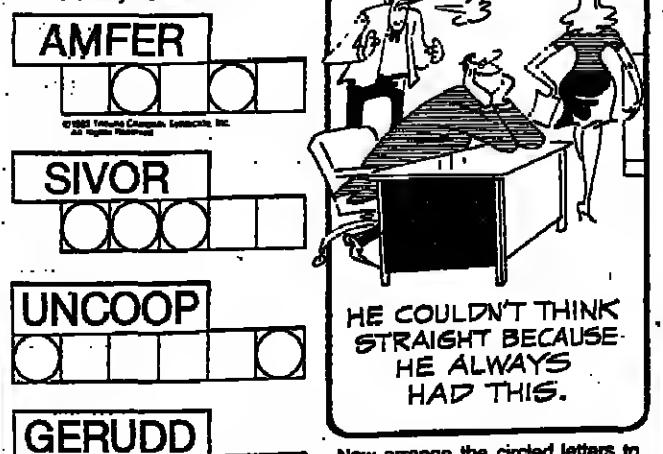
### THE BETTER HALF

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### JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



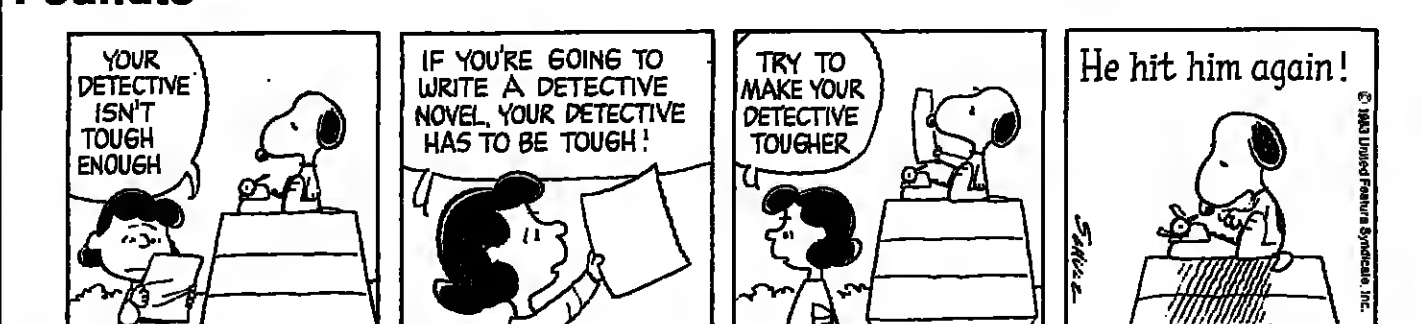
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: ON HIS

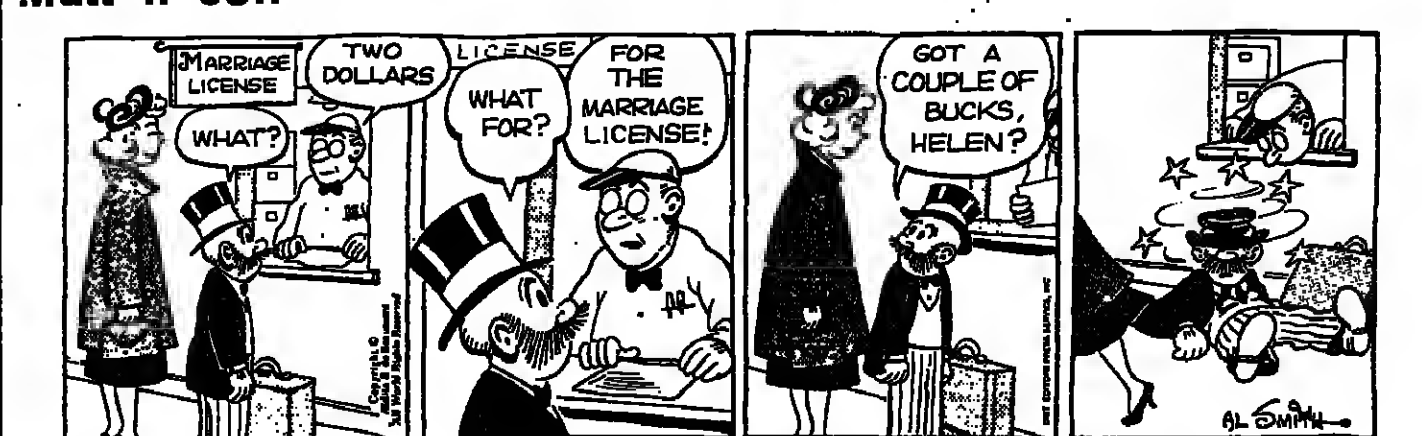
Yesterday's Jumbles: FANCY DAUNT ERMINE REDUCE

Answer: He got the job as a piano mover although he couldn't even do this—CARRY A TUNE

### Peanuts



### Mutt 'n' Jeff



### Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1983

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Until noon all sorts of changes and upsets can take place so do not get disturbed for this is immediately followed by an influence which gives you the ability to fill any voids.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Don't ask a higher-up for assistance since you will not get it but later can get help from friends and gain new benefits.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You could have some trouble with a business person, but it soon blows over. Seek expert advice.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Home tie takes much of your time in the morning, but later you can be with good friends you like. Handle correspondence.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Your morning plans are postponed so get into civic affairs that are important. Watch for powerful individuals.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) A financial affair does not go as you desire, but you can get into fascinating new situations. Follow your intuition.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You find it difficult to get started, but later you make big progress and get much accomplished. Do entertaining at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get that personal affair nicely handled. Take care of outside matters as soon as this is cleared up.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Help a good friend solve a problem before you get into the practical affairs that are easy to you to handle.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Early consider your standing in the world and make plans to improve it very quickly. Go out on the town tonight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You want to expand but this is not the right day for that, since you have worries on your mind.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Await the afternoon before you get into the constructive activity that is on your mind and then get much done.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A depressed partner may take up your time, but after lunch can get much done in the outside world. Improve surroundings.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... be or she will be one of those interesting young persons who will be well equipped for learning but is apt to do much daydreaming early in life, so teach to focus on studies and improve the diet and be more alert to outside affairs.

"The Stars inspire, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

### THE Daily Crossword

by Lee C. Jones

ACROSS	25 Ciphers	48 Diplomacy	21 Mountain
1 Prayer	27 Spread out	52 Trilled	chain
5 Great	30 Safe place	54 Diversified	23 Bumper
9 amount	35 Apple drink	55 Orono's	attacker,
6 Explorer	38 A Gardner	56 Raplace	a.g.
Hedlin	39 Actor Alan	58 Fragrant	26 Locals
13 Simple	38 Phase	59 Linke piga	28 Watkie-
rhyme	39 Patriotic	60 Actor	tackle
scheme	40 Fred or	61 Alight	word
14 La Douce	Steve	62 Blind part	29 Shirli
15 Gaucho's	41 South	63 Wellat wad	barke
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16 Employees	42 Drake's		little..."
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# WORLD

## Workers jeer at deputy premier, cheer Walesa at Lenin shipyards

**WARSAW (R)** — Lech Walesa, leader of the banned Solidarity union, was cheered by workers on arrival at the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk Friday following the verbal clash between his supporters and a government minister Thursday night.

Mr. Walesa, who was carried shoulder-high by supporters after the meeting aimed at explaining government policies, dismissed the government spokesman's verdict that it was a political victory for the authorities.

"Only the communists could invent something like that," he told Western reporters.

Deputy Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski was jeered and whistled at when he addressed more than 5,000 shipyard workers. He ruled out any talks with the leaders of the union, which was dissolved last October.

Official newspapers Friday carried his entire speech and gave only hints of the uproar at the meeting. It ended with Mr. Walesa being carried from the shipyard gates as supporters chanted the union name and sang the national anthem.

The incident appeared to be a grave embarrassment for the government.

It has been trying, through meetings and the press, to reduce tension in the run-up to the Aug. 31 anniversary of agreements that brought about the birth of Solidarity in 1980.

State television, which has usually broadcast long edited film of the meetings with workers, used only a short clip from the Gdansk meeting, including the first TV pictures of Mr. Walesa transmitted in Poland since the military takeover in December 1981.

Government spokesman Jerzy Urban said the confrontation between Mr. Walesa, who made a brief speech urging conciliation and talks, and Mr. Rakowski would not alter the government's approach.

Underground Solidarity activists have called for a go-slow across Poland starting this week, and other protests.

The go-slow call seems to have

drawn little support so far.

Thursday night's meeting took place in the same shipyard hall where the Gdansk agreements with the government were signed by Mr. Walesa after strikes in 1980.

### Doubts about arrest

Authorities in Krakow Thursday questioned and then released one of the leaders of the underground Solidarity who stated on television that he had surrendered to police and renounced opposition activities.

But in Warsaw another member of the six-member leadership, Zbigniew Bujak, cast doubts on the affair, saying there had been no sign that the Krakow activist, Wladyslaw Hardek, had been intending to abandon the struggle.

In his television statement Wednesday night, read in an emotional monotone and couched in the language of the official Polish media, Mr. Hardek said he had made up his mind to turn himself in under an amnesty scheme.

He said he had decided that "protest actions antagonise our workmates and lead to unnecessary divisions in society" and

urged other underground leaders to "think over the purpose of any further activity."

But Mr. Hardek's signature appeared with those of other underground leaders on a statement made available here saying the opposition movement's Provisional Coordinating Commission (TKK) met on Monday.

The statement said the entire six-member leadership, including Mr. Hardek, called on workers to follow calls for a go-slow as the country marks the third anniversary of the strikes and agreements that gave birth to the banned Solidarity Union.

Mr. Bujak's statement, which reflected the surprise of many Solidarity supporters after Mr. Hardek's television announcement, said: "Up to the last moment (Hardek) took part in the work of the TKK."

"At this moment I do not know what circumstances caused him to find himself in the hands of the authorities nor those which led to his appearing before cameras."

"Whatever they were, they brought another loss. But, as we have done in the past, we will manage to make up for the loss."

## Australian test-tube baby team to go ahead

**MELBOURNE, Australia (R)** — Australia's leading test-tube baby team was Friday given approval by an ethics committee to go ahead with a new process involving the transfer of eggs between women.

The work by Melbourne's Monash University-Queen Victoria Hospital in-vitro team was stopped last October while a committee studied its legal, social and health aspects.

The technique involves extracting an egg from a donor which is then placed in a test tube, where it is fertilised by the sperm of the husband of the infertile woman. The fertilised egg is then replaced in the woman.

The nine-member committee, set up by the state government of Victoria, said the use of donor eggs should be permitted and laid down guidelines for all aspects of producing test-tube babies.

Routine methods involve an egg, taken from a woman who cannot conceive, being fertilised by her husband's sperm in a test tube before being replaced.

Donor sperm is also used in the case of infertile husbands.

The new process, the success of which has yet to be proven with the birth of a healthy baby, will be allowed to proceed if the government accepts the recommendations.

## U.N. chief says Cuban issue should not be linked to Namibian settlement

**LISBON (R)** — Angolans protested against alleged South African aggression against their country as United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived in the capital of Luanda Friday, the official Angolan news agency Angop reported.

In a message received here, Angop said the demonstration was also in protest against "imperialist manoeuvres" over independence for neighbouring Namibia (South West Africa).

Before flying to Luanda from Windhoek, the Namibian capital, on the last leg of his mission, the U.N. chief said he was opposed to linking a Namibian independence settlement to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

He was speaking at a press conference shortly before flying to Angola for a scheduled meeting with South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) leader Sam Nujoma.

South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha, who had two days of

talks with Mr. Perez de Cuellar earlier this week, has said there can be no settlement in the territory without a withdrawal of the estimated 20,000 to 30,000 Cubans.

"I hate the idea of linking the two things," Mr. Perez de Cuellar said, adding it would be unfair to subordinate Namibian independence to the situation in Angola.

The Cuban presence appeared to be the only major obstacle remaining to Namibian independence following the Cape Town talks where both sides agreed significant progress had been made.

SWAPO President Sam Nujoma said at a press conference in Luanda Thursday that SWAPO had intensified its 17-year guerrilla war against South Africa in several parts of Namibia, the official Angolan news agency reported from Luanda.

He rejected the link which the United States and South Africa claim exists between Namibian independence and the withdrawal

of Cuban troops from Angola.

where SWAPO has its main bases. Justus Garoeb, leader of the damara Council, an important tribal group, told reporters Thursday that Namibians were being used as hostages to U.S. interests in Angola. The United States supports the South African stand on Cuban troop withdrawal.

Mr. Garoeb, who brought a delegation on a 500-kilometre overnight journey to meet Mr. Perez de Cuellar for 15 minutes — the time allotted to each of the invited parties — complained that this was "hardly long enough to say hello."

Other leaders have also protested at the procedure and the fact that the U.N. permitted South African administrator-general Willie Van Niekerk to issue the invitations.

Mr. Garoeb, who is regarded as pro-SWAPO, said the briefing he and his colleagues received Thursday left them unconvinced that any progress had been made in the Cape Town talks.

## Soviet dissident stripped of citizenship

**MOSCOW (R)** — Dissident Novella Georgiy Vladimov, who was allowed to emigrate to the West last May, has been stripped of his Soviet citizenship by President Yuri Andropov, the official law gazette announced.

It reported that Mr. Andropov had signed a decree on July 1 revoking the author's passport on the grounds that he had "defamed the high title of citizen of the USSR."

Mr. Vladimov headed the Moscow branch of the human rights organisation Amnesty International from 1977 until he left for West Germany on May 26.

He wrote a personal appeal to Mr. Andropov earlier this year asking for the right to emigrate after the KGB security police had searched his flat and threatened to prosecute him for anti-state activities.

Mr. Vladimov, 52, has been praised in the West as one of the most powerful of modern Soviet novelists.

At a news conference in Frankfurt where he is staying with friends, Mr. Vladimov said he had

not had official confirmation of the decision to strip him of his Soviet citizenship but heard the news through Western press reports.

"This news is a great blow for my wife and me, and not only for us but for the Soviet Union as a whole... it changes nothing and it does not take away my ability to criticise the Soviet government," he said.

He has not applied for asylum in West Germany and has not yet been contacted by the authorities, he said. He had a one-year exit visa from the Soviet authorities and held a one-year visa to stay in West Germany.

## Martin Luther King's widow says toughest battle still ahead

**ATLANTA (R)** — Twenty years after Martin Luther King told the United States that the country's blacks were still handicapped by vestiges of slavery, his widow believes the toughest battle is yet to be fought.

Coretta Scott King says her husband's "I have a dream" speech in Washington two decades ago, before what was then the largest rally ever seen in the land, led to the end of segregation and the guarantee of voting rights.

However, in an interview with Reuters, she said: "The final stronghold of inequality in this society is in the economic arena. Black people have barely scratched the surface in terms of achieving economic justice, or economic parity."

Her husband's celebrated speech is to be commemorated at a Washington rally Saturday, which organisers hope will match Mr. King's 1963 feat in drawing about 250,000 people.

Mrs. King works at the King Centre for Non-Violent Social Change, an impressive red brick library and garden complex where her husband's body lies in a white marble sarcophagus.

She gives 100 major speeches a year and, at 56, still puts in dawn-to-dusk working days.

Its programme, including a

voter registration drive among blacks, has pushed the Rev. Jesse Jackson to the forefront as a possible black presidential candidate.

Asked if she thought there would be a black running in next year's primary elections to choose a candidate, she said: "I think that it appears there will be one black candidate."

She said Rev. Jackson, who once worked for her husband, was the only black so far to act like a candidate, but declined to say whether she would endorse him.

"Whether Jesse is black or white is not so much the issue as having a candidate who can attract the largest number of people... so that we can defeat Mr. Reagan," she said.

Mrs. King also said the famous "dream" segment of her husband's speech 20 years ago was almost never delivered.

He had given a version of it earlier that year in Detroit, "but he debated whether or not he would add it that night because he only had eight minutes (to speak)."

"I don't really believe he decided until he was actually making his speech that he would use the whole section. He departed from the manuscript and started 'But I still have a dream.' And he went on, 'I have a dream that this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed.'"

## Argentine politician condemns his abductors after miraculous escape

**BUENOS AIRES (R)** — Escaped kidnaper victim Patricia Kelly said he knew the identity of several of the armed men who seized him near his Buenos Aires home Wednesday.

Mr. Kelly, 61, a key witness in several human rights cases now before Argentine courts, reappeared early Thursday after jumping from a moving car in a Buenos Aires suburb.

At an improvised news conference outside his home, he said he could name several of his kidnappers, but he declined to do so to reporters.

He blamed the incident on what he called "a mafia which has more power in this country than the armed forces." He alleged that "Argentina is the prisoner of a mafia of 100 people," but he again did not name anyone.

Mr. Kelly also refused to give details of how he escaped from his captors, saying he would save his story for a judge.

The maverick political figure, who is spearheading a campaign to link former navy commander Emilio Massera with massive corruption and a chain of murders, said he owed his life to intensive press coverage of his kidnapping.

Mr. Kelly repeated earlier allegations against Adm. Massera, who is being held in custody on his evidence on charges related to the disappearance of businessman Fernando Branca in 1977.

Mr. Kelly has said that Adm. Massera, who was navy commander from 1974 to 1978, was a leading member of the illegal Propaganda - Duo (P-2) Masonic lodge in Argentina.

Referring to the kidnapping,

Mr. Kelly said a man mentioned in a police statement as taking part in the abduction while wearing an army colonel's uniform, was not a real military officer.

"He was a man disguised as a colonel and it is up to the armed forces to take action over this," he added.

A police car was at the scene of the kidnapping, but the police statement said the man dressed as the colonel told the policemen present that only a minor traffic accident had taken place and the patrol car drove off.

Mr. Kelly said his captors beat him with the butts of their guns and transferred him between several cars while in captivity.

He said he was held in two houses and at one point was in an area where police were searching for him with helicopters.

## Successive press reports spotlight Argentine army errors in Falklands

**BUENOS AIRES (R)** — A second military report critical of Argentina's performance in last year's Falklands (Malvinas) conflict with British has been published Wednesday by the Buenos Aires daily La Voz.

The Peronist newspaper Tuesday printed what it said was the summary of a report by a joint services commission set up to investigate Argentina's defeat in the 74-day war.

It said Wednesday the document was only a working paper written two months ago by the commission's chairman, Gen. Benjamin Rattenbach. Gen. Rattenbach confirmed that the documents were genuine, but declined further comment.

La Voz said the military report published in Wednesday's edition was a fuller analysis of Argentina's handling of the Falklands conflict, on which Tuesday's summary was based.

It repeated criticisms of the timing of Argentina's invasion of the Falkland Islands on April 2 last year and denounced poor planning and coordination in subsequent efforts to defend them from British attack.

It also attacked Argentina's military leaders at the time for not pursuing peace negotiations more seriously, especially when it became evident that Britain would recapture the islands.

La Voz said the document published Tuesday placed prime responsibility for defeat in the war on former President Leopoldo Galtieri and the two other junta members of the day, navy chief Jorge Anaya and air force leader Basilio Lital Dozo.

Wednesday's report said Argentina's occupation of the Falklands was hastily planned and as a result the armed forces did not have enough time to equip and prepare themselves for a potential

war with Britain. Planning and coordination was inadequate from the level of the ruling military junta downwards, it added.

"Errors originating at the highest level of political and military command in the country were transmitted down through the chain of command, producing faulty planning, which in turn led to improvised action by our armed forces," the report said.

It cited as one such error Gen. Galtieri's failure to consult the Falklands' military governor, Gen. Mario Menendez, when he ordered an extra infantry brigade to be sent there after he had paid an inspection visit to the islands.

The report was also critical of Gen. Menendez, who "was unable or did not know how to exercise the degree of leadership which the circumstances required."

## El Salvador army runs short of food

**SAN SALVADOR (R)** — El Salvador's 24,000-strong army often runs short of food when it goes out to hunt leftist guerrillas, a high-ranking military source said.

The source, who asked not to be identified, said that more than half the troops in the field were "literally living hand-to-mouth, day-to-day."

The food shortages were caused by lack of money to buy rations and lack of means to get them to the field, the source said.

Until recently, El Salvador's army rarely left barracks on full-time field patrols and as a result had not established supply lines.

The source noted that substantial U.S. aid to the army did not cover food costs. He said the problem was compounded because some local officers pocketed money allocated to buy food.

In June, the army launched a military-civic action programme loosely based on a U.S. operation in Vietnam to "win the hearts and minds" of people in rural areas where the guerrilla presence is strongest.

## Chilean opposition presses for Pinochet's resignation

**SANTIAGO (R)** — Political parties trying to oust Chilean President Augusto Pinochet held their first meeting with Interior Minister Sergio Jarpa and told him they stuck by their demand that the president resign.

But the demand did not appear in a list of eight measures which the democratic alliance said in a statement after the meeting that the government should adopt as soon as possible.

The 90-minute meeting, held at the residence of the archbishop of Santiago, was held only hours after the alliance called for a new day of protest on Sept. 8 to back its call for a return to democracy in 18 months.

Mr. Jarpa went to a dinner with Gen. Pinochet after the talks, saying only that they had been useful and interesting and that further meetings would be held.

But the representatives of the five parties in the alliance said in a statement that they reiterated their view expressed in a manifesto issued last Monday that only major political changes, including the president's resignation, could prevent the dialogue with the gov-

ernment becoming sterile. "A major political change in the present structure of the government is indispensable in order to bring about the establishment of a democratic regime," the statement said.

Demands made by the alliance included an end to the state of emergency which has been in force since the 1973 coup that brought Gen. Pinochet to power, the legalisation of political parties, the passing of an electoral law, the return of all exiles and freedom of expression and assembly.

The alliance also called for a thorough investigation into the events surrounding the last day of protest on Aug. 11, when more than 24 people died after the president sent troops onto the streets to enforce a curfew.

"General declarations are not enough," the statement said. The meeting was the clearest indication since the appointment of Mr. Jarpa two weeks ago that he was serious in his attempt to come to terms with the opposition, increasingly confident following the widespread support for four days of protest in as many months.

## Indian envoy holds talks with Sri Lankan leader

**COLOMBO (R)** — A special envoy from India who is in Colombo to help to find a solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic problem, which led to bloody rioting last month, had a 90-minute meeting with President Junius Jayewardene Friday.

A government spokesman said Mr. Jayewardene and Gopalaswami Parthasarathi, an Indian diplomat, had a frank exchange.

The envoy was sent by Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi after at least 385 people, mostly minority Tamils, were killed and 100,000 made homeless. The Tamils' ancestors came originally from the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

Mrs. Gandhi, under pressure from Tamil Nadu, offered help in resolving Tamil grievances and Mr. Jayewardene accepted it.

The spokesman said the envoy told the president that India was prepared to give any help required by Sri Lanka in its rehabilitation programme.

For the third day, shops and offices in the northern district of Jaffna, a predominantly Tamil area,

were closed Friday following a strike called by the Tamils, he said. The strike was called to draw attention to the massacre of 52 prisoners during riots in a Colombo jail at the height of the crisis.

Official sources said Tamil leader Appapillai Amirthalingam, who was in India for talks with Mrs. Gandhi, was flying to Colombo Saturday, possibly to meet Mr. Parthasarathi.

Mr. Parthasarathi met Mr. Amirthalingam, secretary-general of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), in Madras on Wednesday.

TULF is leading a political campaign for a separate state for the 2.5 million Tamils in Sri Lanka, which has a population of 15 million.

The demand for a separate state, which had angered the majority Sinhalese, flared into violence after Tamil separatist guerrillas killed 13 soldiers last month.

The Sri Lankan government banned all calls for separatism this month, effectively outlawing the TULF.

## Ex-Guatemalan leader's sister in rebel hands

**GUATEMALA CITY (R)** — The abducted sister of former Guatemalan President Efraim Rios Montt is in the hands of leftist guerrillas, according to one of her brothers.

Martha Elena Rios de Rivas, 36, was kidnapped on June 29 in central Guatemala city by unidentified gunmen.

Antonio Hermogenes Rios Montt, elder brother of Gen. Efraim Rios Montt, who was toppled in a palace coup on Aug. 8, told Guatemalan television Thursday that his sister was being held by members of the guerrilla group, the Rebel Armed Forces (FAR).

He said he received an anonymous telephone call 10 days ago and a letter from far was later received, claiming the abduction of Ms. Rios de Rivas.

The guerrillas demanded the publication of a document in various countries including the four so-called Contadora nations — Mexico, Venezuela, Panama and Colombia — and the United States.

No details of the document were given and Mr. Rios Montt said he had no proof that his sister was still alive.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### French police seize large hashish haul

**PARIS (R)** — Police said they had seized some four and a half tonnes of cannabis valued at five million francs (563,000) in the latest crackdown on both soft and hard drug traffickers in France. A raid on the Lebanese boat Fast 2 in the southern port of Marseilles Thursday led to the discovery of 427 containers which were marked "lentils" but held about 40 slabs of hashish, police said. Some 20 members of the crew, mostly of Turkish and Lebanese origin, have been arrested for suspected trafficking in what police said was the largest amount of cannabis to reach France.

### Wealthy travellers rob luxury train

**LONDON (R)** — Wealthy travellers on the Orient Express have stolen luxury fittings and equipment worth £100,000 (£150,000) since the train service was revived 15 months ago, officials said. Among the items which have disappeared are crystal champagne glasses, silver coffee pots and monogrammed towels. Screwdrivers have been used to remove elegant fittings from the carriage walls. A spokesman for the Orient Express, which charges £330 (£445 for a ticket to Venice), said: "We told passengers they could buy an item they fancied, but it seems they found it easier to just help themselves."

### Taiwan launches probe into school deaths

**TAIPEI (R)** — Taiwanese authorities have launched an inquiry into a school tragedy in which 27 girls were killed and 84 injured when a ceiling collapsed. Officials said the provincial commissioner of education, Huang Kun-Huei, had offered his resignation to take responsibility for Wednesday's accident at the provincial high school in Feng Yuan, 160 kilometres south of Taipei. The police chief in Feng Yuan told Reuters by telephone that an initial investigation showed the ceiling collapsed because of an accumulation of water on the roof after several days of heavy rain.

### Spiders plague Soviet region

**MOSCOW (R)** — A plague of highly poisonous black widow spiders has hit the southern Soviet region of Astrakhan, a Moscow newspaper reported Friday. Komsmolskaya Pravda said the spiders had already killed a number of camels and other animals but that so far no people had been affected. The Astrakhan variety of the spider emits a poison 15 times stronger than that of a cobra, and bites prove fatal if not treated quickly, the daily said.

### Pope's body found well-preserved

**VATICAN CITY (R)** — The body of Pope Pius X, whom many venerated as a saint during his own lifetime, is still in a perfect state of preservation 69 years after his death, a bishop of St. Peter's Basilica said Thursday. Vatican clergy claimed the discovery earlier this year after they opened the glass-fronted coffin of Saint Pius in the southern nave of the basilica to investigate a strange odour. "The body was perfectly preserved," Bishop Vittorio Ottaviani of the chapter of St. Peter's told a reporter. "But the original clothes in which he was buried were decomposing and have been replaced." One Vatican cleric, who declined to be named, said he had been astonished by the lifelike appearance of Saint Pius when the silver face mask he wears was temporarily removed.

### Elephant given artificial insemination

**BASLE (R)** — Basle's zoo said Thursday it had achieved the world's first artificial insemination of an elephant. One of its African elephants was inseminated under anaesthetics with deep-frozen sperm taken from a number of bull elephants in the wild, a zoo statement said. Preparations took four years and gestation will take a further 22 months.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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**Q.** — We have a player in our game who makes it unpleasant for all of us. Because he thinks he is better than anyone else, he constantly criticizes our bidding and play in an overbearing manner. Would you mind telling us what it takes to be a good partner so that we can post your reply in a place where he is sure to see it. — J.L.C., San Antonio, Texas

(This question has been awarded the weekly prize.) **A.** — Each one of us believes he is the best player in the game. And all the other players in the game know that that is not the case. To be a good partner, we have to control our natural instincts — no easy task.

The first thing to realize is that most of our partners don't want to be taught — at any rate, certainly not by us. Whether they are overbidders or underbidders, good players or bad, they like the way they are.

Learn to recognize their faults and adapt to them. For example, suppose that you cut a player who insists in bidding no trump whenever he has a singleton in your suit. Even if you can convince him that that is wrong, you

will only confuse him. Sometimes he will remember what you taught him and other times he will follow his inclination. As a result, you will never know what he

holds. Leave him alone. At least then you know that, when he bids no trump, he probably has a singleton in your suit, and you can bid accordingly.

Don't try to make your partner bid your way. If he is an overbidder or an underbidder, leave him be — just be aware of his foibles. But it can be fatal to try to allow for his penchant by going the other way yourself. For instance, if you try to offset partner's overbidding by drastic underbidding on your part, he is quite likely to overbid even more to offset your conservative actions.

Lastly, don't berate partner for what you perceive to be an error on his part — even if you are right! A "Tough luck, partner," or "Well done" if he makes the contract, or even no comment at all, goes a lot further than criticism, no matter how well intentioned it is or how softly it is delivered.